

THE LONDON LITERARY AND ARTS ASSOCIATION, in a few Days will
be published.

JUVENILE PIECES.

YOUTH OF BOTH SEXES.

TO THIS EDITION IS ADDED
EVENING RECREATIONS.

REGISTERED BY A VIEW OF LONDON
FROM ONE OF THE MONUMENTS.

BY JOHN EVANS, A. M.

*The Third Edition, with ADDITIONS, in a few Days will
be published,*

JUVENILE PIECES,

—designed for the—

YOUTH OF BOTH SEXES.

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REFLECTIONS,

SUGGESTED BY A VIEW OF LONDON

FROM OFF THE MONUMENT.

BY JOHN EVANS, A. M.



PRIN

EVENING RECREATIONS:

COLLECTION

ORIGINAL STORIES,

For the Amusement of her

YOUNG FRIENDS.

By A LADY.

SECOND EDITION, CORRECTED.

LONDON:

**PRINTED FOR B. CROSBY, STATIONERS' COURT, NEAR
STATIONERS' HALL, LUDGATE STREET.**

1797.

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WALK TO THE NEW FOREST; THEY HAD
an old man who was employed telling
one of the latest tales; and Edmond, it was the thing for
him to be obliged to have to hand in
his old age, by the way, applied
Mr. Alworthy, who, Providence
placed him with health; for you see
he has none of the infirmities of old

EVENING RECREATIONS.

STORY I

AT a village in Hampshire, lived
a very worthy gentleman of the
name of Alworthy, who devoted the
chief of his time to the education of
his children.

One morning he invited his son
Edmond to accompany him in a

B

walk

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walk to the New Forest ; they stood for some time attentively watching an old man who was employed felling one of the largest oaks ; poor fellow, said Edmond, it is a sad thing for him to be obliged to slave so hard in his old age ; by no means, replied Mr. Alworthy, whilst Providence bleſſes him with health ; for you ſee he has none of the infirmities of old age upon him ; well, papa, ſaid Edmond, but it is a ſhocking thing to be poor ! the extreme of poverty, replied his father, is doubtleſs ſhocking ; but you ſeem to have taken up a falſe idea upon the diſtinctions that Providence has allotted in ſociety. A good man, whatever may be his misfor-



misfortunes in life, can never be completely miserable; and the rectitude of his own heart will support him through the most trying situations! there is, my dear boy, implanted in our breasts an innate principle of *right* and *wrong*, and young as you are, you doubtless have felt it: What I mean is, that when your conduct has been praise-worthy, you have felt a degree of satisfaction in your own mind that told you, you had acted right; and a sensation the reverse of this, you have experienced whenever you have done wrong, and this is what we term conscience; and even allowing that the woodman, was reduced from

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affluence, to labour for his daily support, yet, if his poverty was neither the effect of extravagance or folly, He would not be miserable, for his mind would rise superior to the distress of his situation.

To every station in life Providence has kindly allotted a proportionate degree of happiness: and the heart of the peasant is as susceptible of tenderness as the heart of the prince. Perhaps, could we follow the old man to his humble abode, we should there witness a scene that might convince us, he was rather an object of envy than pity; we might see him blessed with a faithful partner
in

in life; whose unwearied affection and persevering industry, had rendered her dearer to him than when they were first united; we might see him surrounded by a numerous offspring of children and grand children, emulous to gratify his wishes! we might observe that this man possessed a heart contented at its own situation, nor repined at the superiority of his neighbours; and shall we say such a man as this is unhappy, because he is poor? Oh no, papa, said Edmond, I do not know how it was, but I always thought poor people must be miserable! When sickness befalls the poor, replied Mr. Alworthy, they instantly become objects

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of the greatest compassion, and it then becomes the *duty* of the *rich*, not only to compassionate their sufferings, but relieve them; for, I think charity one of the fairest of the Christian virtues; and I am sure it is one that carries with it its own reward, for of all the delightful sensations of which our nature is capable, none is so gratifying to a feeling mind as that arising from the reflection of having mitigated the sufferings of a fellow-creature.

At this moment the woodman joined them; well Sir, said he, I got through it mortal well, for an old man, did not I? Why, my friend, said

said Mr. Alworthy, that arm of your's has given many a sturdy stroke. Ah, lack-a-day, that it has—Why, please your honour, I have worked at this business five-and-fifty years, and no man ever said Will Wiggins's arm could not lower the stoutest timber amongst them; and I hope I shall down with many another yet, Sir, for I don't desire to die, though I am an old man; for I have got those about me worth living for: I have got, Sir, a good old dame for a wife, and five sons, all as worthy lads as e'er an old man was blessed with; but please your honour, what is it o'clock? for this is our wedding-day, and I promised my old lady to be at home by

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twelve, for she ~~has~~ got plum-pudding and baked beef, and my sons, their wives, and all their little ones, are to dine with us, and I intend to dance with my youngest grandchild. Then take that, my honest friend, said Mr. Alworthy, putting five shillings into his hand, and drink to the happy return of many a wedding-day.

Well Edmond, said Mr. Alworthy, you have now had an opportunity of judging whether the account I gave you of the blessings attendant upon an humble situation, were exaggerated; why, indeed papa, Wiggins seems so very happy, that I could almost wish I was to be a woodman; my
dear

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dear boy remember, that the first essential step towards happiness, is content. Whatever may be your station in life, habituate your mind to view it on its fairest side, nor ever allow yourself to think that the grapes on your neighbours vine, yield a richer flavor than those on your own.

Pray papa, said Edmond, looking at the immense tree that Wiggins's prowess had levelled with the dust, are not oaks the largest trees that grow? No, replied Mr. Alworthy, the oak sinks as much when compared with the calabash tree, as a shrub does when compared to an oak;
it

it is the largest known vegetable production, and is a native of Senegal in Africa; the negros dry the bark and leaves and then reduce them to a powder, and take it medicinally as a preventative to the fever common in that country.

Talking of medicine, is rhubarb a tree papa? no, replied Mr. Alworthy, it is a plant chiefly brought from the eastern part of Tartary, but it is the root of the plant that is valuable. I think papa, said Edmond, I should like, if you would teach me botany, that I might know the use of every vegetable that grows; that would be taking botany upon a very large scale
my

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my dear fellow, though a very humane one.

As they were conversing, Edmond observed a stag whose antlers had got entangled in the boughs of a tree, oh papa, said he, do but look, if you had but a gun we might live upon venison for a week. It would be rather cowardly, surely Edmond, said Mr. Alworthy, to attack the poor animal in that helpless situation. I believe we shall feel more pleasure in assisting it to regain its liberty, than we should to see it struggling in the agonies of death, by the destructive power of our fire arms; and therefore let us hasten to disengage it.

I never

Never, continued Mr. Alworthy, see these animals without its calling to my remembrance the infinite goodness of our Creator in forming an animal of that species, possessing powers from which man derives such essential benefits ; for, to the Laplander, the Reindeer supplies the place of every other useful animal: by its food he is supported, by its milk regaled, with its skin he is clothed, and by its speed he is transported with a degree of swiftness inconceivable over the icy plains. Well papa, said Edmond, don't you think the Laplanders must be a very miserable set of creatures ? not miserable, my dear boy, replied Mr. Alworthy,

but

but pitiable; the extreme severity of their climate, and the hardiness of their lives, joined to the very few comforts attendant upon their station, must make every feeling mind compassionate such a situation. Yet you are to recollect that they never knew any other, and those blessings we have no idea of, we can never fight after! and if the Laplander is incapable of refined pleasures, rest assured he has the power of enjoying rational ones: and whilst he possesses a faithful wife, affectionate children, and a sincere friend, depend upon it he can never be a miserable creature. Why papa, said Edmond, you talk as if every body was happy in the world, and

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and yet I have heard a great deal about the misery of it ; no, Edmond, replied Mr. Alworthy, I mean not to impress you with an idea that we are all happy, for real happiness is beyond the reach of mortality, and fortunate is it for us, that it is so, or we should become so delighted with this world, that we should never think of another ; but my dear boy, I wish you to be convinced, that happiness neither consists in riches or honours, and that those people who appear most to be envied, are often objects of pity. Well, papa, I don't understand how that can be ; suppose for example, I was to loose the affection of your mother, that you were to
live prove

prove undutiful, and my friend false ; yet these are all circumstances I could not go and blazen forth to the world ; I should still have a fine house, fine coach, and a good estate, and the world would think me a happy man ; yet whose situation would be the most enviable, mine or the poor woodman's, who we saw this morning ? why, papa, the woodman's a great deal, but I hope none of these shocking things will happen to you ; I am not fearful they will, said Mr. Alworthy, and I only mentioned them to prove to you how very seldom we can judge of the happiness or misery of our fellow creatures from outward circumstances ; and we are all

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all so differently formed by nature, that those events of life, that to one man appear serious evils, to another are received merely as a bitter draught, to give a greater relish to the sweets that follow ; but however, I hope you, my dear Edmond, will attain a degree of fortitude of mind that will enable you to bear the evils that may await you, with composure and calm resignation to the will of that Being who decreed them ; for rest assured none of us are exempt from trials of this nature ; at the same time not only receive the blessings that are in store for you with gratitude, but cheerfulness, for they are given us for our enjoyment.

At

At this moment they were joined by Mrs. Alworthy and her youngest son ; Charles and I, said she, really thought you intended spending the day in the forest, and fancying you must have found something very agreeable here, we were determined to come and partake of it. Whatever was the cause that brought you, said Mr. Alworthy, the effect is very pleasing to both Edmond and myself, and so take my arm and leave the boys to their own conversation. They had not walked a great way, when the two boys came running up to them, do papa, said Edmond, look towards the sea ; what can occasion that great fog to be confined to one

part of it? oh, replied Mr. Alworthy, I am very glad you have had the opportunity of witnessing the wonderful power of instinct: that fog as you fancied it, is no other than an immense body of the feathered race winging their flight to a milder region; the swallows, you are to know, are of too delicate a nature to endure the rigour of our winter, and therefore Providence has wisely implanted in their nature an instinctive faculty that occasions them to collect in large bodies in the month of October and migrate to a softer clime; but as soon as vernal fun's enliven the face of nature, these little wanderers again return, and this generally happens

pens in April. Come, said Charles, I want you, Edmond, to help me pick up some acorns, and away they both ran for that purpose; as they were thus employed, they were addressed by a beggar, a young healthy looking man, dressed as a soldier, who solicited charity; he told them a pitiable tale of distress, and said, he had not eaten a morsel for eight-and-forty hours, and that he had a wife and children starving with hunger; the boys instantly put their hands in their pockets, and between them gave the man four-pence; heaven reward your charity, said the man; but my dear young gentlemen, I fear my wife will die for want of

nourishment, she has just lain-in, and this four-pence will not buy much ; oh, but we have got a shilling each, said the children eagerly, there take it, and run and procure your poor wife a little wine to comfort her ; the man instantly turned into a by-path and was out of sight in a moment ; soon after their father and mother joined them, and Mr. Alworthy proposed returning home, as he recollected an appointment he had made with a gentleman, but promised them another walk on the following morning.

STORY II.

THE next morning, as soon as breakfast was over, the two boys repaired to the gardens to amuse themselves with a game at trap-ball, and ~~soon~~^{were} soon after joined by Mr. and Mrs. Alworthy; well, said the former, I have not forgotten my yesterday's promise, are you inclined for a walk this morning? oh yes, papa, that we are, replied the boys, and the trap and ball were instantly thrown aside; I think, said Mr. Alworthy, buttoning

his coat, we are going to have winter at a very early period, for I protest I could bear my great coat; why, said Mrs. Alworthy, if you talk of a great coat now, we must procure you a Russian pelisse by Christmas; a Russian pelisse, mamma, what is that? said Charles; it is, my dear, returned his mother, a large fur cloak, that the Russians wrap themselves up in to defend themselves against the rigours of their climate, and with this a cap, and boots of the same materials, they are proof against its severity; but why, mamma, replied Charles, don't they wear hats, instead of caps? because, continued Mrs. Alworthy, the cold is so very intense, that if their ears were

not

not defended against its attacks, the effect would be dreadful; and it is no uncommon thing for them to be frost-bitten; the mode of cure for this, is the rubbing them with snow, but if they came near a fire a mortification would be the certain consequence; but in the year seventeen hundred and forty, the frost was so very severe, that, at Petersburg, they built an intire palace of ice, and formed a rampart, from which they fired several shot from cannon formed of the same materials. Oh, replied Charles, I should not like to live in Russia, they must surely sit over the fire all day long; very far from it; said Mr. Alworthy, for when I was there,

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which happened in the winter season, I assure you, I partook of all their amusements; I used to drive my sledge upon the Neva with as much boldness as the natives, and slide down their ice hills with as little regard to the safety of my neck; ice hills, papa, said Edmond, is Russia a very hilly country? no, but the hills I mean are artificial ones, formed upon the river Neva, they are composed of planks raised between thirty and forty feet high and covered with ice. These hills you ascend by the help of a ladder, and seating yourself in the sledge, it glides down with such amazing velocity, that it is often carried upwards of an hundred yards forward upon the plain.

plain. I think, papa, said Edmond, the Neva is the largest river in Europe? no, the Volga is of superior size, and is very near it.

Pray papa, said Charles, is Peterburgh a very fine place? yes, replied Mr. Alworthy, I think you would call it so, and when we consider that at the beginning of this century it was a mere morass and the habitation of a few fishermen only, it gives one a fine idea of the powers of art and industry, for the noblemens seats are magnificent, though upon the whole not quite so much so as those at Moscow. At Moscow I was extremely astonished by a gentleman calling
upon

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upon me one morning to invite me to go with him to the house-market; the house-market, papa, exclaimed Charles; yes, you are to know that the common peoples houses are all of wood, and this market is a perfect street formed of movable ones, which in two or three days after the purchase, is thoroughly completed and inhabited.

Pray papa, said Edmond, were you presented to the Empress, for I heard her court was a very splendid one? to give you an exact idea of its magnificence is impossible, replied Mr. Alworthy, the Empress is more richly habited than you can conceive, and adorned

adorned with a crown of diamonds; she is preceded and followed by a train of courtiers, who each seem to vie with the other in splendour; but there is a most beautiful spot where the Empress often retires with a select party of her friends, called the Hermitage, and once a week she gives a private ball and supper there, servants are wholly excluded; and the various refreshments emerge through trap doors; but the Russians in general, though very hospitable, are fond of a display of ostentation; and the poor, are a more dependant set of beings than you can conceive; in short, there cannot be a more abject set of creatures than ~~the~~ Russian peasants

fants. I think, said Mrs. Alworthy,
 upon the whole, the poor of our own
 country, are a happier set of beings
 than in any other; doubtless they
 are so, replied Mr. Alworthy, and
 the first of blessing is the liberty
 they enjoy; no abject servility is
 here required, by the master from
 his servants, his wants are all supplied,
 and his comforts attended too; this
 subject, continued Mrs. Alworthy,
 reminds me of the accident Molly
 has just told me happened to Thomas
 Downing, and if you have no ob-
 jection, we will walk and see him;
 certainly, said Mr. Alworthy, but
 how did it happen? I hear that as
 he was gathering apples yester-
 day

day morning, he fell from the
 ladder and has broke his leg;
 as they arrived at the door of
 the cottage they met the surgeon
 coming out, and had the satisfaction
 of hearing that there was no symptom
 of danger attending the accident;
 he has but little fever, said the
 surgeon, but this, I believe, is owing
 to his being so very sober a man;
 for I never saw him in a public house
 in my life. They now entered the
 room where the sick man was con-
 fined, every thing wore an appear-
 ance of the greatest neatness, and his
 wife, boiling a little barley water, was
 so very pretty, and so delicately clean
 in her person, that Edmond could
 not

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not help going up to his mamma to beg she would look at her. Why, my poor fellow, said Mr. Alworthy, softening his voice and taking Thomas by the hand, I am sorry to see you thus; but however, have a good heart, and I don't doubt but I shall soon see you able to run and jump with the best cricket player in the village; I can bear pain, sir, said the man, but my poor Mary takes it so sadly to heart, and that is worse than all the rest, for there she stands, and she knows I have often told her, that I would walk ten miles after I was tired from work; rather than see her cry! and now she has done nothing else ever since I was brought home!

and

and I know she will make herself sick, and God knows who is to nurse her ! for though she looks so rosy, she cannot knock a man down as a body may say. Well, but my good tender-hearted Mary, said Mrs. Alworthy to her, it is very wrong to give way to your own feelings, at the hazard of hurting your poor husband. Hurting him, madam ! God knows, I would die to save him from pain ! But when I see him lay there, and think that I may loose him, I feel almost choaked with grief, and I believe I should be quite so, if I was not to cry ; this is all very natural, my dear woman, continued Mrs. Alworthy, but you should never distrust

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trust the providence of God; and the surgeon tells me, that your husband will do very well again, and we will do all we can to make you comfortable; you shall have your dinner from our table every day, and a little girl to nurse your child, and I will pay her, that you may devote your whole time to your husband, and when I call again in the evening, I shall expect Thomas, that you will give me a good account of her behaviour; saying this, Mrs. Alworthy hurried out of the room, as she saw the poor creature was quite oppressed by her feelings of gratitude. Now my dear boys, said Mr. Alworthy, as I wish to encourage the principles of true

true benevolence. I think the family we have just left, are, during the illness of poor Thomas, objects of real charity: for you know his wages must cease from the time of the accident, therefore I would advise you to put by a part of your weekly allowance, until he recovers, and then give it him towards discharging his surgeon's account, and as I know you have money in your pockets, suppose you let me be your banker; we should be very happy to do it, papa, said the boys, but we really are moneyless, and at the same time they related the manner in which they had disposed of it. I should be very sorry,

replied Mr. Alworthy, to check the

D

emotions

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emotions of humanity in the breast of youth, yet I cannot help thinking the man who was the object of your charity was an impostor ; surely, papa, said Edmond, that is judging very harshly, and what can be your reason for it ? why, in the first place, if he had really fasted eight and forty hours, he would not have struck you as looking so very healthy, and besides your mother's humanity is so extensive, that had any poor creature been in the situation he described his wife, some one would have told her, that her distress might have been relieved, had she made proper application.

At this moment they were overtaken by a party of soldiers, and the identical object of the boys compassion, walking hand-cuffed in the midst of them, uttering the most abusive language to those around him; oh, papa, said Edmond eagerly, that is the very man; well, replied Mr. Alworthy, let this be a caution to you to endeavour to distinguish between real and imaginary objects of distress; yet never let it suffer you to become suspicious, or to check the amiable sensation of compassion, but only let it lead you to endeavour not to suffer your charity to be imposed on, for you are now withheld from doing an act of real kind-

nels by having expended that money upon a bad character that might have added to the comfort of a good one; however, said Mr. Alworthy, we will now return home, and I shall be ready to devote the remaining part of the morning to your studies, which, said Mrs. Alworthy, if you acquit yourselves in to the approbation of your father, you shall accompany me in my evening walk to Thomas Downing's.

STORY III.

CAPTAIN Harcourt was a gentleman in the naval line, and no less beloved and esteemed for his public character, than for his private virtues : Mrs. Harcourt united a sweetness of manners to a liberality of mind, and her heart was open to the most refined impressions of friendship ; it was natural for people who possessed such sentiments as these, to become peculiarly interested in the education of their children,

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and they had the satisfaction of beholding their three boys early manifest the most amiable turn of mind; Frank, the eldest, had lately recovered from a dangerous fit of illness, and as it was near the vacation, his parents kept him at home until after the expiration of it.

One morning he entered the study where his father and mother were sitting, and requested his mamma's permission to drink tea with Charles Hammilton; my dear Frank, said Mrs. Harcourt, you know I always derive pleasure from promoting your happiness, and therefore rest assured, that when I deny your request, I have

have substantial reasons for it ; but I really do not think Charles Hamilton a boy whose acquaintance will ever do you credit. Not credit ! mamma, why Charles's papa is richer than mine, he has three carriages, and he has more money than any boy in the school ; yes Frank, I know it, continued Mrs. Harcourt, and it is from his *valuing himself* upon his riches, his carriages, and his father's *exalted situation*, that makes me think him an improper companion for you ; besides, there are many traits in his character that are very unamiable, he is as mean as he is proud ; and depend upon it, my dear boy, his heart is incapable of friendship : and

let me intreat you never to form an intimacy with any being who^m you observe deficient in natural affection; recollect for a moment how very disrespectfully Charles conducts himself to his father and mother, and how over-bearing to his brothers and sisters; with what insolence of manner does he address the servants; in short, he is the last boy in the world I should wish you to form an acquaintance with, and though I do not expect to have the power of guiding your affections, yet, I flatter myself, I may be able to direct them; there is Henry Burton, a boy who possesses one of the sweetest minds and most generous hearts that ever inhabited

inhabited a breast ; with him, my dear fellow, I could wish you to form the strictest intimacy ; a friendship with such a character as that would not only be a source of pleasure but improvement, for you would be continually witnessing some amiable trait in his natural disposition, and as example is far more powerful than precept, you would imperceptibly copy the virtues you admired ; oh mamma, said Frank, Henry and I have long been friends, and I love him very much, and think he is worth fifty Charles Hammilton's ; but Charles can be very entertaining, indeed mamma ; you cannot think what a good mimic he is, and how
 exactly

exactly he can take off his acquaintance; and can you think Frank, replied Mrs. Harcourt, that you are without imperfections? no, certainly mamma; but why do you ask the question? because, depend upon it, to the first person he saw after you left him, would he *expose* those *imperfections*, and all under the hypocritical appearance of being entertaining; and thus, if your character is not injured your weaknesses would be exposed; but if he was to correct these faults, replied Frank, you would not then object to my being acquainted with him mamma? I am not apt to take prejudices, replied Mrs. Harcourt, but whenever I am *convinced*

a character is bad I am not easily persuaded to believe it will *grow better*, at least when the faults proceed from the *heart*, and as that is my opinion of Charles Hammilton, I beg that all intercourse between you may drop; well, mamma, said Frank, you know best, and so I will think no more about this said birth-day; but he is to have a very large party, and they intend to have a great deal of fun.

I cannot promise you a great deal of *fun*, but I think I can offer you some amusement, if you will go with me this afternoon and see Mr. Parkinson's museum; oh mamma, that is quite

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quite the thing, but do tell me what we are to see there? a great deal to delight an admirer of nature, but as I have never been there, I cannot give you an exact description; there are animals, vegetables, and minerals, in high perfection. I dare say we shall see an Elephant, mamma; and I wonder whether he has got the bird with the flaming wings that papa so often saw in the Mediterranean; you know, replied Mrs. Harcourt, that they had only that very flaming appearance when they flew against the sun. Oh, and those little insects which so frightened the sailors, when papa was on the coast of Malabar? those little insects, if you

you recollect, your papa told you, were so small that they could not be seen with the naked eye, and that they lost their luminous power when they had been out of the water about half an hour.

A servant now entered and told his master, that Mr. Newman wanted to speak with him; step down Frank, said Captain Harcourt, and beg Mr. Newman will send word up what his business is, for I am very busy writing letters of consequence; papa, said Frank, when he returned, they are going to erect a new hospital, and Mr. Newman hopes you will put your name down on this list for there

are

are a great many of your friends whose names are inserted; my compliments to Mr. Newman, replied Captain Harcourt, and I wish his plan success, but I shall not become a subscriber; *not* become a subscriber, papa! why Mr. Newman said he was *sure* you would, you were so very benevolent; I am obliged to Mr. Newman for his good opinion, continued Captain Harcourt, but as I have not a very large fortune, I prefer disposing of that part of it which I allot to benevolent purposes, in private, rather than in public, charities; well, but papa, said Frank, this is only two guineas, come, you had better give it to him; and with two
 273 guineas

guineas my dear boy, I have been enabled to impart happiness to a whole family who were in hourly expectation of being deprived of the comforts of a home by a merciless landlord, to whom they were indebted that sum ; so take the list down and say what I desired. John again came up stairs to inform his master that a sailor of the name of Wilmot begged to see him, I do not recollect his name, said Captain Harcourt, but let him come up, John.

A young looking man, with a countenance expressive of the honesty of his heart, now entered the room, with a "servant your honour"; mahap
you

you have forgot Joe Wilmot;—oh no, my honest friend, replied the Captain, and I recollect that I never had a better seaman serve under me, but where have you been these three years? please your honour, said Wilmot, I have been going down in the world ever since I left your honour's ship; first I went to the West-Indies and there I caught the fever, and had liked to have tipped the bucket, then coming home, I fell from the top-mast and broke my thigh, and when I was able to go on shore and had got my wages, then a jackanip's of a fellow, who called himself a sailer (though please your honour I do not believe it) told me a sad story with

with such a smooth tongue, that my heart ached for him, so I offered him half my birth; but the first night the dog came, he stole my bag that I kept my money in, and I have never been able to hear of him since; but the worst is, I now owe my landlady five and twenty shillings, and this is worse than all the rest, for please your honour, I never was in debt in my life before, and this woman's rating at me all day long, with a voice louder than a boatswain's whistle; but the long and the short of my coming here is, that I hear your honour ~~has~~ got a ship, and I should be glad to serve you. Why, my brave fellow, you have been

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going *down* in the *world*, indeed; however, we must contrive to let you aloft again: and first of all there is something to still the clamour of your landlady's tongue, said Captain Harcourt, laying two guineas upon the table; and as to my ship, you may enter on board her as soon as you please. God for ever bless your honour, and all that belongs to you, said the poor fellow, with an expression of gratitude in the tone of his voice more forcible than language; and as to you, madam, said he, turning to Mrs. Harcourt, I shall never forget your kindness to my poor dear mother, poor soul, she used to say you did her more good than all

all the doctors stuff, and I would work by night and by day to serve you. Thank you kindly, Wilmot, for your good intention towards me, said Mrs. Harcourt, with a smile of ineffable sweetness; and suppose you go down into the kitchen and see some of your old friends, and tell them I desire they will make you welcome.

That man's conduct to his poor mother, my dear Frank, said Mrs. Harcourt, as he left the room, was a pattern to those in much more exalted situations; when she was ill he took a lodging for her close to the place where his ship was situated;

and every moment that he could be absent from his duty on board, he spent by the side of her bed; he never drank his allowance of liquor, but let it remain until there became a gallon due to him, which he then sold, and carried the produce to her, and his wages he disposed of in the same manner; and when she died his unfeigned grief was really distressing; and yet much as I should have wished to serve this poor fellow, said Captain Harcourt, had I subscribed this morning to the hospital, I should not have thought it right to have done it; and why not, papa, replied Frank, because, continued his father, if my benevolence is not restrained within

within the bounds of prudence, I should reduce myself to a level with those I wish to relieve; well, papa, but you could have taken him on board your ship; yes, my dear boy, I could have certainly have done him that act of kindness, but he would still have felt oppressed with this debt to his landlady; but I would have you remember, that acts of kindness are continually coming within the ability of every man, though real benefits we but seldom have the power of bestowing.

Pray mamma, said Frank, what time shall we go to Mr. Parkin-

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son's? we will dine early and go immediately afterwards. One of our boys, continued Frank, told me there were several of the things in the museum that Captain Cook brought from Otaheite with him: perhaps, mamma, the elephant came from thence; no, replied Mrs. Harcourt, the only animals they have are hogs and dogs; they must soon be tired of pork, then, said Frank; oh, but they have poultry, fish, and wild fowl; potatoes, yams, fruit, and vegetables, cocoa nuts, and the bread tree, in great perfection, so you find they are not very badly off. I wonder, mamma, said Frank, why Omiah could not be happy in this country?

country? for a reason my dear boy, that did honour to his affectionate feelings; he had left behind him a father, brothers, wives, and children, and all the gratifications we could offer him were insipid when he reflected upon the delight he had enjoyed with these tender connexions! wives, mamma! why had he more than one? yes, such is the custom of that country, and Omiah, though a very young man, had several; well, returned Frank, when I marry, one will satisfy me, but I intend to love her with all my heart; love her Frank, said Captain Harcourt, as well as I do mine, and she will not have reason to complain

of your want of affection; yes, papa, said Frank, I think you set me a very good example; but I wish dinner was ready, for I am very impatient to be gone, mamma. At this moment the servant announced it to be on the table; as soon as it was over, the coach was ordered, and they drove to the museum, Frank was so delighted with all that he saw that he intreated his mamma to promise that he should devote a whole day to the inspection of it; and then he is to give me a description of all the curious things it contains; which I intend to impart to you for the amusement of some future evening.

STORY IV.

MR. ADAMS was a gentleman of very large property, which he derived from an extensive share in one of the tin mines in Cornwall; his family consisted of two daughters and a son; the harmony and affection that subsisted between these children was delightful to behold; George, the eldest, was about thirteen, and had been placed at a public school about two years; but Selina and Harriet were educated at home; when
the

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the Christmas vacation approached, Mr. Adams, as usual, went to fetch his son, and his little girls felt the liveliest sensation of delight at the thoughts of embracing their beloved brother; well, George, said Mr. Adams to his son, as soon as the chariot drove from the school door, and how much money do you bring away with you this vacation? not much papa, replied George; I doubt you are a bankrupt, said his father, and at the same time putting his hand into George's pocket produced six shillings; why, I protest, here is a perfect fortune! said Mr. Adams, but how is it that you, who have hitherto always returned from school so poor, should
now

now be so very rich? are you going to turn banker, George?

I recollect when I was at school there was a boy who used to save his allowance until it amounted to four or five shillings, and then lent it to those who were moneyless, upon condition of their paying him double after the holidays; the same boy used to come to school loaded like a pedlar, with tops, bats, balls, whips, &c. and these things, when the boys returned to school with full pockets, he sold for double their value; now, I really have no fear that you should adopt this method, but I confess I should like to know for what purpose

pose you can have saved six shillings out of your weekly allowance? well then papa, I must tell you, that poor Thomas, a very good-natured servant, who once lived with our master, has been very ill; so ill as not to be able to eat any thing but oysters, and the boys who all loved him, one, or other, of them, sent him a few every day, but I thought when the holidays came, the poor fellow would miss his oysters, so I determined to save up my money, and when I got home send him a barrel; my dear fellow, said Mr. Adams, I am delighted with the plan you had formed to gratify poor Thomas's appetite, and you shall send

send him a barrel every Saturday until you return to school; and as I find you intend to make so good a use of your money, there is half a guinea for you to dispose of as you think proper.

I think, said Mr. Adams, looking out of the chariot window, it is very fortunate that I came for you to-day, for, from the appearance of the atmosphere, we are going to have a deep snow; do you know, George, that at Bergemolletto, a small village in the vicinity of the Alps, three people were buried under the snow thirty-seven days, and then dug out alive; dear papa, said George, how could that be

be possible? Why, continued Mr. Adams, when this amazing mass of snow, which was driven from the Alps, overwhelmed the village, these poor creatures were fortunately in a stable; one part of which being supported by a very thick piece of timber, did not give way; there happened fortunately to be likewise in the stable two goats that gave milk, and though these poor souls had hardly room to turn themselves, yet it providentially happened that this spot was close to some hay, and therefore, by that means, they had an opportunity of prolonging the goats existence, and procuring a degree of sustenance to themselves just
enough

enough to support nature; but when they were discovered, they were in so emaciated a state that another day must have terminated their existence; there were at the same time thirty houses overwhelmed, and three and twenty inhabitants lost their lives; how very lucky it was, said George, that the goats were in the stable; lucky, my dear George, said Mr. Adams, is not a proper term, it was *providential*, and was strongly marking of the protecting hand of a Superior Being. Well, papa, said George, I am sure there is something very lucky, for I can see my mamma and sisters coming to meet us, and instantly calling to the coachman

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coachman to stop, he jumped out of the carriage and was in Mrs. Adams's arms in a moment; alternately he embraced Selina and Harriet, and a happier group was never beheld.

As soon as they got home, they all went into the play-room, when George drew himself a chair, and taking each of his sisters on his knee; now, said he, tell me all that has happened since I left you; it seems such an age, replied Selina, that I hardly know where to begin; why, you must begin at the first day, replied George: what did you do after I left you? what we always do

do, said Harriet, cried until we gave ourselves the head-ache; the poor dear heads, said George, kissing the forehead of each. Well, the next day? Oh, the next day, continued Selina, that was a luckless one, for I lost the little pocket-book you gave me for a keep-sake; I was quite miserable, for fear you should think I did not value it: but that I am sure I did, though how it went I never could find out. How could you be such a goose to vex yourself about such a trifle, said George, but go on; yes, replied Selina, and how kind do you think dear Harriet behaved about the pocket-book? as soon as she found that all our

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search after it was vain, she sent Betty out with a new guinea grand-mamma had sent her for netting a purse, and bought me one exactly like it, and when I awoke in the morning it lay on the table with a little note within side it, saying, that she hoped it would make me some amends for the loss of the one you had given me ! she is a nice girl, said George, and always delighted in good natured actions ; yes, replied Harriet, but if you call *that* a good-natured action, what will you say to poor Selina, walking two miles in the rain to buy me a dove, when one of mine died ! but why did Selina go in the rain, continued George,

George, could she not have waited until it was fine? oh, said Harriet, it did not rain when she set out, but it began soon after, and Betty wanted her to return, but she said she could not bear to see me so uncomfortable; and she did not mind a wet jacket, though she suffered enough for her kindness, for she caught a dreadful cold, and every time she coughed, it went to my heart, for I thought I was the occasion of it; well, said George, and have you *been* any where, my dear Selina? yes, replied Selina, we have been into Cornwall, and there we saw the poor miners at work, and a shocking employment it is, the poor men all look

so dirty and so pale; ah, but, said George, that is nothing to the mines of gold and silver and quicksilver, there indeed you would be shocked for the poor creatures, are never suffered to come out; never suffered to come out, replied Selina, oh! how dreadful! but why not? because, continued George, they are poor wretches who are sent there as a punishment for some crime, and they have cruel task masters set over them, who make them work without intermission; how do you know, said Harriet; papa told me so one day when he had been reading and explaining to me a very elegant poem written by Mr. Sargent,

gent, called the Mine; well, said Selina, I should never have thought of writing a poem upon such a dismal subject; oh, replied George, it is a very pretty story that it was founded upon, and if I can I will tell you something about it.

At Venice there lived a very amiable nobleman, whose name was Alberti, he possessed such a sweetness of disposition, that every one loved the Count Alberti; and the Countess was very young, very beautiful, and very good; all the foreigners who went to Venice were delighted with this family: well, this unfortunate Count had some words with a

general in the emperor of Germany's service, and they fought, the general was left for dead, the Count attempted to escape, but was taken and condemned to work in the quicksilver mines at Idria, to which miserable place the poor dear Countess followed him, think Selina how she must have loved him; for though you thought the mines in Cornwall gloomy, what would you have thought of this into which you are let down in a kind of bucket more than one hundred fathom, and the noxious power of the mineral soon deprives them of the ability to labour, for they loose the use of their limbs; well, said Selina, I am
glad

glad however that the poor Count and Countess were not doomed to live *long* in so *wretched* a *state*; oh, continued George, I have not finished my story, there is a great deal of good to come yet; for you must know the general had only fainted, and when he recovered, application was made to the Emperor to remove the Count and Countess from their horrid confinement, and they were received with the greatest joy by all their friends and relations; oh, what happiness, said both the children: after such misery, it must be joy indeed, said George, but I have heard that some mines are very beautiful mines! beautiful! said Har-

riet, yes continued George, the salt mines of Wielitska, in Poland, are very spacious and beautiful, and the reflection of the lamps upon the walls of salt casts a very brilliant lustre : they have cut several small chapels out of the salt, and on certain days mass is performed in them ; but salt mines in general are worth seeing, though the one I have mentioned is by much the largest and most profitable.

When you are old enough to go abroad, George, said Harriet, what wonderful things you will be able to tell us ; yes, my dear Harriet, I shall have a great deal to entertain you with,

with, but papa tells me, that travellers often represent things more wonderful than they really are, but I shall never do *that*, for I should be afraid people would never believe me when I related things that were *really true*; besides, when people tell stories in *little* things, they soon do it in *great* ones; there is a boy at our school, who, when he first came, we liked very much, for he is a generous good-natured fellow, but he is so dreadful a story-teller, that now we have found him out, we none of us can bear to play with him, yet some of the boys who knew him when he first went to school, told me that then he never used to tell stories only
in

in joke; and who is that, said Mr. Adams, entering the room, who only used to tell stories in joke? Charles Turner, papa, replied George, but telling stories in joke, continued Mr. Adams, is a very long stride towards the telling them in earnest; yes, papa, and that is the case with him, for he is a sad boy that way, and I was just telling my sisters so, and besides he often suffers for faults that he never commits, for if any mischief is done and the boy cannot be discovered he is sure to be blamed for it, and one day there was some wall fruit missed and the boys were all called up, and taxed with having taken it, however, all denied it, and
the

the blame fell upon poor Charles, and he was ordered to have a severe flogging, he had received two or three strokes, when George Cooper, who had been home for two or three days, came into the school, and asking what Turner had done, found he was punishing for a fault that he had not committed; he called out stop, and ran to the top of the school, and Charles was let down, and George taken up and suffered the same disgrace; well, said Selina, I should love that boy, George, though, for his behaviour. Why, my dear girl, said Mr. Adams, he must have been a vile fellow to have acted otherwise; there is a great difference

difference between doing our *duty* and the doing an act of *generosity*, if George had been Charles's friend and to save him from pain, had professed himself to be the guilty person, that would have been an act of generous friendship and praiseworthy, but the other was a mere act of justice ; but, papa, said Harriet, then Turner would have told a story you know ; very true Harriet, replied Mr. Adams, and though I would have a boy of mine a strict observer of truth, yet allowing such a motive to have actuated Turner to deviate from it, *that* would induce me to overlook it, for I feel that to serve my friend, I could subject myself to
any

any inconvenience, and I hope my dear children I shall live to see you all give proof of possessing the same sentiments.

But, I came in, said Mr. Adams, to propose a walk to you all, oh, papa, said the children, we shall like it very much, but where shall we walk to? why, replied Mr. Adams, your mamma begged me to invite Mrs. Goddard, the Sunday school-mistress, and all the little ones, to dinner with us on Christmas-day: oh, papa, that is delightful, said Selina, how happy the little souls will be; as they walked along, they saw two or three young lambs, but
there

there were not many, as it was rather too early for them. Papa, said George, pray ~~don~~ not our sheep produce more wool than from any other country? oh no, replied Mr. Adams, Spain is the part of the world where wool is in the greatest abundance; in short, their sheep walks are a treasure in themselves. It is from Spain that we have the finest oranges, is it not, papa, said Harriet; Spain is a very rich country, said Mr. Adams, it produces in many places spontaneously the rich fruits of France and Italy; but the Spaniards are an indolent set of people, and are very sparing of tillage, or it would be a very fine corn country; they

they have oranges, lemons, almonds, prunes, citrons, figs and raisins, and their wine is excellent, particularly sack and sherry; formerly they had gold and silver mines, but whether they are exhausted, or whether they are too idle to work them, is not known with any degree of certainty; their iron is of a very superior quality, and has always been thought particularly famous for gun barrels. Pray, papa, said George, have they many wild beasts in Spain? no, replied his father, wolves are the only beasts of prey they are infested with. I thought I had heard, papa, said Selina, that silk worms flourished very much in Spain; so they do, continued

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tinued Mr. Adams, and their mulberry trees look very pretty loaded with their produce; I have even heard that the one article of silk, amounts to two hundred thousand pounds per annum; but it is, you know, the most mountainous country in the world; the Pyrenees which divide France from Spain, are two hundred miles in length.

The party by this time arrived at the house of Mrs. Goddard, who received the invitation with delight and gratitude, and said she was sure all the little folks would scarcely be able to sleep for thinking of the pleasure; a servant followed Mr. Adams,

to

to say a gentleman wanted to speak with him ; well, said Mr. Adams, if you like to stay and talk a little with Mrs. Goddard, as you have not seen her for so long a time, George, you are very welcome, and Thomas may stay and walk home with you ; this proposal was very pleasing to the young folks, and Mr. Adams returned home with all possible expedition ; and now my dear good young ladies and gentleman, said Mrs. Goddard, cannot you eat a little piece of pie after your walk ; for a neighbour of mine, not thinking the 'squire would be so kind to me, has just sent me a large nice minced pie against to-morrow ; oh, no, said

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Selina,

Selina, we would not rob you of it for the world; oh, do not talk of robbing, Miss, said the poor woman, for I am sure it will do me more good to see you eat it, than to eat it myself; and accordingly she spread a nice white looking napkin on the table, and produced the pie, which George protested should not be cut, unless Mrs. Goddard would divide it in four, and sit down and eat with them, which she reluctantly consented to; and pray, Mrs. Goddard, said George, how many scholars have you? thirty, Sir, said she, and though I say it, thirty as good children, and who know their duty as well as any within thirty parishes of us; and so they

they may well, replied George, for I will be bound to say, you take pains to teach it them; thank you master for your good opinion, and I believe the Squire and madam too are pretty well satisfied with them; however, Sir, you will see them to-morrow, and I hope you will not think I have said too much in their praise; I quite long for to-morrow's coming, I assure you, said all of them, but pray come early; which Mrs. Goddard promised, and the children took their leave.

As soon as they got out of the house, George took each of his sisters by the hand, and said, I want to ask

your advice ; you must know, that papa has given me half a guinea, and I have been thinking I should like to spend part of it upon these children ; I should like to call at the bakers and order thirty two-penny plum buns, and when they go away to-morrow evening give one to each ; oh, what a happy thought, they both exclaimed, how it will delight them : accordingly they called at the bakers and bespoke the buns, and then returned home.

Well, papa, said George, as he entered the study, where is the gentleman who wanted you ? the gentleman, replied Mr. Adams, is in the

the kitchen, it was your mamma's brother's old servant, Edward, but what do you think he came for, George? I cannot tell indeed, papa, perhaps to say my uncle would come and spend the Christmas with us; no, not exactly so, but to beg that we would spend it with him; and to intreat that I will set off to-morrow morning, as he has an old college companion of mine, who must leave him in a day or two, but who is very desirous of seeing me. And will you go, papa, said all the children eagerly; why, your mamma wishes it, so I believe I shall, replied Mr. Adams; they all expressed their delight at this in-

tended expedition: oh, but the poor Sunday school children, said George, what will they do? the house-keeper, replied Mr. Adams, will attend to them the same, as if we were at home; that will settle the affair comfortably, said George, and away he flew to Mrs. Harrison to tell her of his plan with the buns, and giving her five shillings, begged she would pay for them.

The next morning the coach was at the door by eight o'clock, when Mr. Mrs. Adams and the children set out for Moreton Abbey, the seat of Mrs. Adams's brother.

STORY V.

AT a small village in one of the most romantic spots in Cumberland, lived a Mr. Berry, the worthy rector of the parish in which he resided ; he was a man that possessed every qualification that could call forth the love and respect of his parishoners, and he was perfectly venerated by them ; in Mrs. Berry shone all the milder virtues that could adorn a feminine character ; though their fortune was small, yet,

by strict œconomy, they were enabled to do a thousand benevolent actions, and the poor never applied for relief in vain.

Mr. Berry had two sons, the eldest a boy about fourteen, possessed a sweetness of disposition that was captivating, and to this was united, a most unbounded desire for the attainment of knowledge; from a child, he habituated himself to reflect upon every circumstance that struck him as wonderful, and this habit had the happiest effect in forming his judgment; George, the youngest, with a natural good heart, occasioned his parents many hours of anxiety, for he

he was so dreadfully indolent, that neither punishment, or persuasion, could make him apply, yet his affections were warm, and his heart tender; and he always felt a degree of remorse, when he witnessed the uneasiness he occasioned his father; though he had not resolution to correct those faults, he lamented possessing; Edward was delighted to impart to his brother that knowledge he had obtained by application; but if any circumstance was not quite clear to George's comprehension, he always doubted the fact; and if the relation struck him as at all marvellous, he either flatly contradicted the possibility of it, or walked away humming

ming a tune, as much as to say, make
 me believe it if you can; in short,
 he carried this incredulity of dispo-
 sition to the most provoking degree,
 and a temper less gentle than Ed-
 ward's would have been constantly
 teased by it; but with the most
 philosophic calmness, he used to try
 to convince him he was wrong. It
 was the custom of the brothers to
 rise early and walk before breakfast,
 and one lovely morning, on the first
 of April, they chanced to ramble to
 a spot where two wood-men were
 engaged in felling a large elm tree,
 they stopped to view the body sepa-
 rated from the roots that supported
 it, and Edward was astonished at
 observing

observing a large toad crawl from a small cavity in the solid part of the tree, and the wood-cutters expressed as much surprise, but George perfectly laughed at what he termed his brother's folly, in believing it possible that any creature could have existed without the aid of external air ; why, you goose, said he to Ned, do not you know that it is the first of April, and those fellows I dare say have often heard that you amuse yourself with finding out the virtues of an old dry stick, or the qualities of a flint stone; and so they had a mind to make a fool of you by contriving to pop the toad in a hole of the tree that you might puzzle your brain for
a week

a week in conjecturing how it came there ; Ned smiled at this idea of his brother's, but as he walked along, his mind was intent upon tracing the possibility of the reptile by any means having made a passage to such a situation ; but thought that impossible, as the tree was perfectly solid ; he determined to apply to his father for information on that point ; and therefore made the best of his way home for that purpose, but George amused himself with sauntering along, and throwing stones into the lake on the banks of which he was walking ; Mr. Berry met his sons at the end of the garden, and Ned informed him of the astonishment the sight of a
toad

toad in such a situation had excited; the circumstance, my dear boy, said Mr. Berry, is not common, and I never witnessed it, but I can explain its cause, for the egg must have fallen through some of the pores of the tree, and the creature have been hatched in that habitation: but when I was in the harbour of Toulon, I saw a circumstance of a similar nature, which was no other than small fish of an exquisite flavour taken out of a solid mass of stone, and the spawn must have been laid in the earth, or mud, of which afterwards the stone was formed; well, said Mr. Berry, George do you believe the truth of these circumstances? I hardly know, papa, replied

replied George, whether I do or not, though if you really *saw* the *fish* taken out of the *stone*, I must believe it; perhaps, continued Mr. Berry, as you doubt the possibility of a toad receiving nourishment from the sap of a tree, and fish from stones, you may not credit a matter of fact which has been well authenticated, and this is no other than that many of our fellow creatures have absolutely owed their existence to a bread made from earth; for you must know, that in the German wars, the soldiers were so dreadfully distressed for provisions, that from a hill in Lusatia they formed the earth into bread, for they had observed, that when the
 sun

fun had heated it, it cracked and small white globules of a kind of meal proceeded from them, and of these they made their bread; and I have also heard that at Catalonia in Spain, the same kind of earth is found; but my dear George, if you have a grain of affection for me, let me intreat you to subdue the natural incredulity of disposition, and never doubt the possibility of a thing because you have not capacity to comprehend it: but set about improving your mind, and then circumstances that now appear wonderful will no longer be so, for then you will be able to trace their course; yes, papa, said George, but would it not be very foolish

foolish to believe every marvellous tale that one heard merely because it was out of the common way; certainly, replied Mr. Berry, but I do not advise that to get out of one extreme, you should run into another: a very credulous character is generally a very weak one; and a very incredulous disposition, is generally united to obstinacy and self conceit; but there is a happy medium between the two, George, which I think with a little pains you might attain; but, I am forgetting that your mother is waiting breakfast for us all this time, and so let us make the best of our way home.

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The next morning the boys again left their beds at an early hour, to enjoy their accustomed ramble, and as they walked on the side of a hedge they perceived a viper extended in the shade it afforded. Ned had a thick, short stick in his hand, and aiming a blow at it, instantly laid it lifeless at his feet; I thought Ned, said George, you made a point never to take away the life of any creature; neither would I for the world, replied Ned, hurt any thing that was harmless, but look at this little bag under its tongue; it contains a poisonous liquor, my dear fellow, that would soon do your business; for if you had but a slight wound and was to

rub the part with it, its effect would in all probability be the death of you; come, Mr. Philosopher, said George, do not hum-bug me, that won't do, for I have heard people eat vipers, and I would eat that for six-pence; and so you might very safely, said Ned, if you did not touch the head part; and a boy at our school told me, that when his mamma was thought to be in a consumption, the physicians ordered her broth made of them; I should like however, said George, to try whether what you tell me about the poison is true, and I have a great mind to rub a little of it on my thumb which I cut yesterday; for heaven's sake, said Ned, give

me the viper, and do not terrify me with the idea of your being so foolish. At this moment Mrs. Berry called Edward, and he flew to obey the summons; no sooner was Ned out of sight than George determined making the experiment, and accordingly rubbed his thumb with the contents of the bag; Mrs. Berry had called Edward to walk with her, to see a servant who had formerly lived with them, but who was very ill; George joined the party, but had not walked a great way before he began to feel his thumb very painful; I am sure, my dear George, said Edward, looking at him, you are not well; do but observe mamma, he looks as pale as

death, pale indeed, said Mrs. Berry, quite alarmed, what is the matter my beloved boy? oh, do not frighten yourself mamma, said George, I am only a little sick, and it will presently go off! We will return however, said Mrs. Berry, my love, and do lean upon my arm; let me run on to the apothecary's mamma, said Ned, for I am sure he is very ill; it was with difficulty poor George could get home, the pain of his thumb was so intense; Ned had found Mr. Freeman at home, and he arrived at Mr. Berry's just before Mrs. Berry and George; no sooner had he seen his patient than he looked quite alarmed at the appearance of him,

him, but the moment George confessed his folly, he desired Mrs. Berry not to distress herself, for that there would be nothing to apprehend if her son consented immediately to have the thumb amputated; George declared he would submit to any thing without complaining, but that he should never forgive himself for having been the occasion of such terror to his mamma and brother. He never so much as said oh! when the operation was performed, and whenever George used to express his fears that his hand was in pain, my dear Ned, he would say, do not pity me, I deserve ten times more than what I endure; but it shall be a lesson.

through the whole of my life, and so it proved: for from this period, he set about conquering the little infirmity of his disposition and became a very amiable young man.

STORY VI.

AS Mrs. Mansel was one evening pointing out to her children the beauty of the setting sun, their attention was called from admiring that luminary, by the tears of a child who was bewailing the loss of a jug, which from, an unlucky accident, she had broken; my poor child, said Fanny Mansel, do not distress yourself so much about the loss of your jug, I will give you sixpence to buy another; thank you.

kindly Miss, replied the little girl, but I am grieved about the milk, for I do not know where to buy any, and mammy wants it for the poor baby whose mother is dying at our house. Mrs. Mansel, whose heart was ever open to the emotion of compassion, instantly enquired the history of the poor woman; I do not know any thing about her, said the child, only that she is very bad, very poor, and very friendless, and it is very shocking to see her; oh mamma, said the children, do let us send her some money by this little girl; had we not better go and see her my dears? said Mrs. Mansel; no, mamma, replied Fanny, do not let us see her,

her, for it will shock us so very much; my dear Fanny, returned Mrs. Mansel, I hope and believe that you have a feeling heart, but to a person who did not know you as well as I do, you would appear to have a very selfish one, for to avoid the pain the sight of distress would occasion you, you are charitable but by halves; besides, you heard the poor creature was friendless; and a few words of sympathy, to such a sufferer, may be more soothing to her mind, than all the comforts your purse might be able to procure her body; indeed, mamma, said Fanny, I never thought of that, but I will run directly and try to comfort her; we will all go, continued

tinued Mrs. Mansel, and this little girl shall conduct us to her cottage, and then she shall buy her jug; when they arrived at Mrs. Crofts, I hear, said Mrs. Mansel, you have an unfortunate stranger at your house, who is very ill, and I am come to know if I can render her any service; bless you madam for your kind intention, said the woman, but the poor soul, whoever she was, wants no more kindness from any of us: but what is to become of the poor babe she has left behind God knows! if I could afford it, I would never part from it; do, said Mrs. Mansel, tell me who this unfortunate woman was? why, madam, returned

returned Mrs. Crofts; I will tell you
 all I know about her: last night as I
 was getting my husband's supper
 after he came tired from work, I
 heard a thump against our door, what
 is that John, said I? some unlucky
 boy or other, said he I suppose, but
 never mind him, the next mo-
 ment we heard a groan, and run-
 ning to the door, we saw a poor
 young creature lay with a child
 fastened round her waist, about a
 month old; at first we thought her
 dead; but I warmed some vinegar
 and held under her nose, and my
 husband he kept rubbing her hands
 and feet till at last she opened her
 eyes, and so then I heated a drop of
 elder

elder wine that madam at the parsonage house had given me, and put a little to her mouth, but the poor soul could not swallow it: she made a sign for me to put the child on the bed by her, and she pressed it to her bosom and sighed as if her heart would ^{break} ~~break~~; it would have melted a heart of stone to have seen her, and I cried over her like a child. Though she could not speak, she was very sensible; and when she saw how mortally I was grieved, she took my hand and kissed it, and then pointed up to heaven as much as to say, God would make me amends for my goodness; but it must have been a sad hard heart that would not have been

been kind to such a young helpless creature; soon after she fell a sleep, and so madam she lay until about half an hour ago, when, she went off like a lamb. I wish I could find out who she was, or ^{where} ~~were~~ she came from, but she had nothing about her that could inform me, though I am sure she has seen better days; and as to the child, it is the sweetest babe that ever was set eyes on. My good worthy woman, said Mrs. Mansel, though my heart is pained by the sufferings of the poor unknown, it is delighted to find such sentiments of true benevolence in so humble a situation; as for the hapless stranger, I will take care she shall be laid decently in the grave;

grave. And I will endeavour to supply the place of a mother to the poor little orphan, for Providence has blessed me with an ample fortune, and I feel a delightful satisfaction when I can relieve the distresses of my fellow creatures, and as you have acted so humane a part by the mother, I am sure I can depend upon your acting a tender one by the child, therefore she shall remain at nurse until she is old enough to be received into my family; when that is the case, I am sure my children will be happy to shew her kindness and affection; oh, that we shall, mamma, they both replied, and we shall never play with

with our dolls then ; you must not only play with her, said Mrs. Mansel, but instruct her ; indeed, I mean to put her intirely under your care, and you must work for her also ; we will work all day long mamma, said Louisa, to make her comfortable, poor little helpless thing ; indeed, said Mrs. Mansel, you must begin the moment you go home, for she must want clothing, but pray Mrs. Crofts let us see our little ward, the infant was immediately brought, and while they caressed the unfortunate innocent, they could not help shedding a tear to the memory of its hapless mother ; the children told their mamma they had each five shillings

shillings in their purses, which they requested she would permit them to spend at the linen-draper's for the child; this was immediately complied with, and they returned home with their bargains, eager to begin upon their new employment.

When they entered the house, the footman informed his mistress that a gentleman of the name of Selby was in the drawing room—is it possible!—exclaimed Mrs. Mansel; oh, my uncle—my dear uncle, said the children, running before their mamma and embracing him! when Mrs. Mansel's joy was a little abated at the unexpected arrival of
her

her brother; my dear George, said she, I never suffer my own happiness to break in upon that of others, and therefore I know you will excuse me for half an hour, when I tell you that I am quite the village doctress, and that one of my poor patients has sent to beg to see me; my dear Charlotte, said Mr. Selby, pray do not treat me as a stranger, but follow the dictates of your own benevolent heart, without having any idea of ceremony; and Fanny and Louisa must tell me all they have done and seen in my absence; I do not think, uncle, said the children, we shall be able to entertain you much, for we have not

I seen

seen a great deal, though we are just now come out of Derbyshire, as my mamma has been to Buxton for the use of the waters; I suppose you know, Sir, that the springs are warm at that place? I never was there, said Mr. Selby, and beg you will tell me what occasions the warmth; mamma informed me, it was from the waters meeting in their subterraneous passage with beds either of coal, sulphur, iron, or amber, all of which are of an inflamatic nature; and she said, that when she was at Broseley in Shropshire, she saw a tea kettle boiled in ten minutes over what they termed a burning well; well, said Mr. Selby, and what is there remarkable

markable besides these warm springs? oh, we went to the Peak, and had a fine view from its top, and we went to Eldon-hole, and there Louisa was such a goose, she was afraid even to look down it: and we could not persuade her to venture into Poul's-hole; but mamma and I did, and you cannot think, uncle, how beautiful the petrified water looked, as it hung from the sides of the cavern, when the light from the guide's candles shone upon them; but, I tell you what we have seen, uncle, which I liked much better than any thing in Derbyshire, said Louisa, and that was, the King's Procession to St. Pauls; oh, it was

a very fine sight, and every body was so happy to see him well again: for you know, uncle, every body loves the King; but I thought it very odd of mamma; for, when his coach passed, I saw the tears fall from her eyes, and when I asked what occasioned it, she said *pleasure*; but, for my part, I always laugh when I am pleased.

If you like a procession, Louisa, said Mr. Selby, you should have been with me at Palermo, for you must know that the Sicilians have an annual gala in honour of their favourite Saint; and on this day she is drawn in the greatest pomp through the principal streets of Palermo in a triumphal

a triumphal car, seventy feet long and eighty high; the front is an oval form, with seats like a play-house, which are filled by a numerous band of musicians; over this orchestre is a high dome raised upon pillars, on which is placed a large silver statue of the figure of St. Rosalia, the whole is adorned with a number of Saints and Angels, and decorated with orange trees, flower pots, &c. it is drawn by fifty-six mules richly caparisoned, and driven by twenty-eight postilions, dressed in gold and silver stuffs, with large plumes of ostrich feathers in their hats; oh, my dear uncle, said Louisa, that I was but St. Rosalia, to ride in

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such a fine car; well, but this is not all, replied Mr. Selby, for this wonderful procession is succeeded by the most beautiful illumination you ever beheld, and fire works more splendid than you can imagine, in short, for four days, there is a continuation, and a variety of the most showy amusements; well uncle, continued Louisa, if you love us, and ever go to Palermo again, only ask mamma to let us go with you, for I would give my ears for a sight of that dear Saint who makes so many people happy; I wished for you, I assure you, replied Mr. Selby, and so I did when I walked in the orange groves at Malta, for the fruit is finer than
any

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any I ever tasted; I wish you had brought some with you then, uncle, said Fanny; I would have done it with pleasure, my dear girl, returned Mr. Selby, but they are so luscious a fruit, and the rind is so much thinner than the Spanish oranges that they would have been spoiled in the journey; however, I ^{have} brought you something from Malta; though, perhaps, not a very elegant present for a young lady, but I wished to compare them with the English manufacture, for you are to know that the people of Malta pride themselves upon having brought their cotton stockings to much greater perfection than any other country; and this

may be accounted for by the different growth of the plant ; plant, uncle ! —why I thought it was a tree—the cotton that comes from the East-Indies, continued Mr. Selby, is from a tree ; but at Malta, it is a plant, about a foot and half high, covered with pods full of cotton and capable of being worked into the finest texture. I should like to go to Malta very well, said Louisa, but not half so well as Palermo ; for my part, replied Mr. Selby, the impression I felt when I entered the canal of Malta, will never be effaced from my remembrance ; it was one of those nights, Fanny, that I dare say you have often heard your mamma admire, the moon
shone

throne with unusual brightness, and the lustre of its beams played upon the smooth surface of the water, the firmament was bespangled with innumerable stars, and the surrounding coast was wonderfully picturesque; the sailors were singing the midnight hymn to the Virgin, and keeping time with their oars. Well, Louisa, said Fanny, would not you rather have been on the canal at Malta, than seeing the procession of St. Rosalia? no, to be sure I would not, replied Louisa, and for one ride in St. Rosalia's car, I would not mind if I never saw moon, stars, or water, through my whole life.

Mrs.

Mrs. Mansel now returned, well, said she, how much work has been done? are the things almost finished? no, mamma, replied Fanny, we have been attending to our uncle, who has been giving us some very pleasing information, but now, if you approve it, we will go and work up stairs, and then we shall not have any thing to take off our attention; by all means, said Mrs Mansel, and pray remember that the poor helpless babe cannot enjoy the comfort of fresh clothing until your work is complete; when they got into their apartment, they found Mrs. Mansel's woman and the house-keeper very busy in cutting out complete sets of baby-linen, they

they therefore requested their assistance in contriving the things they had bought, to the best advantage; and they all sat down to try who could evince the greatest kindness to the child, by working the hardest; before bed-time, there was a frock, shirt, cap and night-gown, quite complete, and Mrs. Hardy, the house-keeper, set off with them to Mrs. Crofts; and the next morning, Mrs. Mansel promised they should go and see the little girl dressed in them; the children arose by six o'clock, and when their mamma came down to breakfast, she was astonished to find so many articles complete, in so short a space of time; I hope, said she, my

dear

dear girls, it is not merely from its being a new employment, that you take so much delight in it, but that you will ever feel the same degree of pleasure, whenever you can have the power of shewing kindness to the little orphan; yes, mamma, replied Louisa, that I am sure we shall; but do pray order in your chocolate, for I am quite impatient to see it; but you must endeavour to subdue this natural impatience of disposition, Louisa, continued Mrs. Mansel, and by way of giving you an opportunity of doing it, I must tell you, that the chocolate is not boiled enough, and therefore you cannot go to breakfast this half hour; I wish, said Louisa, they made chocolate

chocolate as they do tea, but pray, mamma, is there a chocolate tree? chocolate, replied Mrs. Mansel, is a paste made from the cocoa-nut, which is a tree that flourishes in many parts, but I believe it attains the greatest degree of perfection in the West-Indies; and pray, mamma, is not coffee a shrub? coffee is made from the berries of a tree, the chief of it is imported from Moco, a port town in Asia, or from Grand Cairo in Egypt, and is in itself an amazing branch of commerce.—I know mamma, said Louisa, that sugar comes out of canes; but I want to know how they manage it? you must know then, that the plant rises about nine

or ten feet high and it is jointed; they therefore cut the cane from these joints (and there is very soon a succession of new shoots from them) and when they have stripped the reed from their leaves, they are tied up in bundles and sent to a sugar mill, and by the weight of a great roller, broken in pieces, the juice runs into pans which are set ready to receive it, and after a process of boiling, it is put into casks and exported, but it is refined and made into loaves after it arrives in England.

The servant now brought in breakfast, and with it a little jar of new honey, which he said, Mrs. Crofts had

had sent, with her duty to the young ladies; I think, said Mrs. Mansel, there seems to be as many amiable points in that poor woman's character as I ever met with; that she is industrious, we may judge from the appearance of every thing around her; that she has humanity and tenderness, we have witnessed, and her little present to you, convinces me she is grateful; but, mamma, said Fanny, should not we offer to pay her for the honey? by no means, returned her mamma, you would sensibly pain her by such an act, for, depend upon it, she is really gratified by the idea of proving that she is grateful, and she means it as an act of kindness to you; you shall

make

make her amends by giving her something in return, but not for the world would I have you offer to pay for it, did I never tell you, continued Mrs. Manfel, that the bees in Africa, form their habitation in the hollow of trees, and that there are people who get their livelihood by collecting the honey; in this employment, they are assisted by a little bird, called the honey hunter, this little creature, when it discovers a store-house, sits upon the branch of the tree, and continues a shrill note of cher, cher, until the people arrive, who are in pursuit of it; they then fly away to another tree, and adopt the same plan; and this is an instinctive method,

method, to preserve its own existence, for a little honey is always laid on the branches, by way of rewarding its diligence; but why, mamma, said Fanny, could not the little honey-hunter fly into the hole and help itself? for the very same reason, my dear, that you could not put your hand into a bee-hive; when I think what industrious, as well as useful, little creatures, bees are, I cannot help being shocked when I hear of children who destroy them through mere wantonness or cruelty! but there is no harm in killing wasps? mamma, said Louisa; there is harm in every act my love, said Mrs. Mansel, that tends to lessen the feel-

ings of compassion; and if we can habituate ourselves to the killing wasps without *reflecting*, that we are *inflicting* an agonizing pang, I fear we shall have taken one step in the path of inhumanity, yet it often becomes necessary to kill them, or their number would hazard our own ease.

But now, if you please, we will visit our little charge; when they arrived at Mrs. Crofts, they heard the child was quite well, but a sleep; they drew back the curtain of the cradle to contemplate the innocence and beauty of its countenance; oh, that it was but big enough, mamma, to live with us, said Louisa; but what

is its name Mrs. Crofts? that, I do not know M^{rs}, replied the woman, but I suppose madam will have it christened; oh, mamma, said the child, do let it be called after me; no, Louisa, said Fanny, I think it ought to be named Charlotte; oh yes, so it shall, replied Louisa; will you, mamma, have it named after you; it shall be any name you like, my dear children, for, as I intend you shall have a great deal to do with its education, I shall let you fix those little points yourselves. Well, then Charlotte shall be its name, Mrs. Crofts, said both the children at once; but, mamma, we must make it something smarter to be christened in, and

as it is not awake, do let us go home and begin.

Accordingly, the whole day was devoted to preparations for the christening, and when that was over there was always some new employment found necessary for little Charlotte, they visited her every morning, and time increased their affection and tenderness for the little orphan.

STORY VII.

MR. and Mrs. Pennington resided upon a family estate near Exeter, and devoted their time to the education of their children: Emily, their eldest, was in her fourteenth year; and Charlotte was one year younger, and possessing one of the most amiable dispositions that a child could be blessed with. Unhappily, Emily, was of a very contrary nature; she was proud to a degree of insufferance, and was so selfish,

that all her ideas seemed to center in her own gratification ; in short, her heart seemed incapable of a tender or affectionate impression. Mr. Pennington had a sister, married to a gentleman of immense fortune, who resided during the winter months in London. This lady, whose name was Newton, wrote to Mrs. Pennington, requesting her eldest niece might pass part of the winter with her ; and that when Emily's visit terminated, she hoped Charlotte might then be permitted to supply her place. Mrs. Pennington was averse to this visit, from the idea, that the magnificence Emily would witness at her aunt's might increase

that

that pride she was so anxious to subdue; but Mrs. Newton was so urgent in the request, that a refusal was impossible.

When the morning arrived for Emily's departure, Charlotte joined her sister with eyes absolutely swollen with weeping; which Emily observing, said, so, Miss Charlotte, you have been crying, I suppose, because you are not going to see my aunt, though you know that as I am the eldest I have a *right* to go *first*. No indeed, my dear Emily, your going *first* was quite out of thoughts; but this is, you know, the first time we were ever separated,

and I cannot help being pained by it; but as to going to London, I have no wish, for I am so happy in my dear mamma's company, that I am sure I can never feel so much so in any other persons. What, said Emily, have you been telling mamma this fine canting tale, to make her believe, that your affection is superior to mine? it is very hard, Emily, replied Charlotte, that you will always put such unkind constructions upon my actions; and just at the moment we are going to part, it is really cruel!

Mrs. Pennington now entered the apartment, to tell Emily that the chariot

chariot was at the door, and her papa ready to attend her. Charlotte ran up to her sister, and embracing her with the utmost tenderness, said, sometimes think of me, Emily, and write to me, I intreat you, my dear girl; oh, I shall make no promise, said Emily, with the most mortifying indifference, and giving her a cold salute, ran down stairs; she took leave of her mother with as little degree of tenderness, and jumped into the carriage with as much joy, as if she had not left a single dear connection behind.

Mrs. Pennington's heart was exquisitely pained by this proof of indifference,

difference, and the whole day, neither herself or Charlotte could rally, their spirits; the next morning when they were at breakfast, Mrs. Pennington observed Charlotte look very absent, what are you thinking upon, my beloved girl, said Mrs. Pennington? I was thinking mamma, replied Charlotte, how much the poor negro's endure to supply us with this article, (at the same time taking up a lump of sugar) and I have a great mind to leave off drinking it; the little portion of sugar that you drink, Charlotte, can never add to the sufferings of those unhappy people; and besides, they are employed in a variety of occupations, besides cultivating the

the sugar cane. I wonder mamma, continued Charlotte, how long it is ago, since slavery was first allowed? that is a question, replied Mrs. Pennington, I cannot resolve, but the period is very far back, for the story of Joseph, in the sacred writings, is a proof of it; but it is a most disgraceful traffic, and shocking to human nature! pray, mamma, said Charlotte, how are the blacks made slaves of? why, my dear, by a variety of methods, the children of slaves are *so* by *birth*; for being born in bondage they instantly become the property of their parents master; and in Africa, the internal states make war upon one another, and of course

course, the weak become slaves to the strong, and those poor creatures are then sold to European ships, that trade to those parts. When these ships arrive at the stated place, they very often send boats up the rivers Gambia and Senegal, and under the mask of friendship, invite the poor unsuspecting Africans on board, when, instead of being treated with the hospitality they expect, they instantly find themselves secured and placed in the most confined situation you can imagine. Humanity shudders at a conduct so treacherous, and disgraceful ! And think, what must be the feelings of the hapless captive, torn from every endearing connection—

nection—separated from his country—and condemned to incessant labour! but, my dear Charlotte, it is a subject that pains me even to talk of, and as it is an evil out of our power to remedy, we can only lament the necessity of it; and therefore, we will turn our reflection to a more pleasing subject, and think of the blessings that Providence has benevolently bestowed upon us, and receive them with grateful hearts. Yes, mamma, said Charlotte, it is a shocking thing not to be *grateful*; but pray, speaking of gratitude, what have you ever done to oblige Mr. Howard the curate so very much, for he always seems to think you have
been

been so uncommonly kind? your father had once the power of proving his friendship for Mr. Howard, and he always remembers it, but acts of kindness, my dear Charlotte, should never be talked of; however, as you mention that worthy man, if you have any inclination for a walk, we will call upon him this morning; oh, I shall like it of all things, mamma, only I must just run up stairs and fetch down my little magnet, for Charles Howard was so pleased at seeing it take up the steel hat pins, that I am determined to give it him; indeed, I think myself, it is very amusing: the magnet, continued Mrs. Pennington, was a most
fortunate

fortunate discovery, though I believe I explained to you the utility it is of to mariners. Yes, mamma, I remember all about the compass, but I wonder how the power of the loadstone was first found out.--I have heard, replied Mrs. Pennington, that it was discovered by a shepherd accidentally passing over some of the ore, and having nails in his shoes, they were attracted by it, which so terrified the poor fellow that he left them on the hill, running home, and representing to all the neighbours the most tremendous account of what had befallen him; the circumstance reached the ears of some enquiring mind, and by degrees the whole

whole properties of the loadstone were discovered.

As they were walking, I think, said Mrs. Pennington, this is the first time I have heard the cuckoo, and its note seems the forerunner of the season I so much enjoy. If I was King of England, said Charlotte, I would have every cuckoo destroyed, they are such vile birds. I suppose, said her mamma, Charlotte, you are provoked at their idleness, and exasperated at what you think their cruelty, at least I indulged these sensations until I was told by a naturalist, that the cuckoo is so formed that it would be impossible

possible for it to hatch its own young. How is that, mamma? Why, my dear, the stomach of birds are soft, for the purpose of sitting upon the eggs; but the breast-bone of the cuckoo is formed so different, that it is impossible for her to sit upon hers; therefore, you know, by a wonderful instinctive faculty, she always watches until some other bird has formed its habitation, and if she finds eggs already in it, she throws them out, and deposits her own. Well, mamma, said Charlotte, is not that wonderful? It is, my dear, replied Mrs. Pennington; but you will find a thousand things in nature, that, if they call forth

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your astonishment, at the same time mark the directing hand of an all-wise Providence.

Much sooner than Mrs. Pennington expected, she received a letter from Mrs. Newton, saying, that as some friends of hers were going to Exeter, she thought it would be a convenient conveyance for Emily, and therefore Mrs. Pennington might expect her the Monday following. She was convinced, from Mrs. Newton never mentioning her behaviour, that she had conducted herself unpleasingly, and particularly as the visit was so much shortened. As she left her friends

without

without regret, so she met them without pleasure; and she had scarcely been an hour at home before it was visible her *pride* had been augmented by the splendour she had lately enjoyed. The house was paltry, the attendants vulgar, and to be obliged to *walk* into the village would be misery. At night, when she went to bed, she was anxious to unpack her box, to shew Charlotte a pair of pearl ear-rings her aunt had given her. When Charlotte had admired them, Betty, who was in the room, said, will you give me leave to look at them, Miss Pennington? You, look at them! said she, why, you ignorant creature,

you don't know a pearl from a pumpkin. Not quite so ignorant as that, Miss, said Betty; but as I really do not know what pearls are, I shall be glad if you will tell me. They are, said Emily, in the most insulting tone of voice, ornaments proper to be worn by people in my situation; but I shall not give myself the trouble to explain them any further to a creature so much beneath me. At this moment Mrs. Pennington entered the room, having, from an adjoining one, overheard the preceding conversation; she instantly demanded the earrings, and turning to Betty, said, these baubles shall never more be

the

the occasion of your being treated with a degree of impertinence, I am shocked at having heard ; and then, addressing herself to Emily, said, I expect you first to ask Betty pardon, and then explain where pearls come from. She did the first in an ungracious manner, but when she was again desired to give Betty the information she wished for, she began ~~to~~ hesitating, pearls—pearls—oh, I had forgot—pearls are dug out of the earth. Mrs. Pennington shook her head, saying, I am shocked at your pride, and hurt by your ignorance. But do you, my dear Charlotte explain it. Pearls, said Charlotte, looking at Betty with a con-

descending sweetness of countenance,
 are taken out of oysters ; there are two
 seasons in the year, in which the pearl
 fishery is practised, the one in March
 and April, and the other in August
 and September. The divers go out
 in little barks before sun-rise, and
 when they arrive at the rocks, they
 tie a flat stone round their waist, and
 another to their foot, which occa-
 sion them soon to sink ; they fasten
 a large net round their necks by a
 long cord, which is fastened to the
 bark ; this cord is to pull up the
 diver when his net is full, or he
 wants air ; the best divers will keep
 under water half an hour, and the
 rest a quarter ; when they return,
 they

they lay the oysters into a number of little pits, four or five feet square, and cover them over with sand; in this state they continue until they open and the oyster decays; the rubbish is then cleared out, and the sand carefully sifted to separate it from the pearls. Betty thanked Charlotte for the history; and Mrs. Pennington, taking the ear-rings with her wished them good night.

The next morning ordering the chariot, she drove to a jeweller's at Exeter, and disposing of the ear-rings (which were made of small pearls, and of course not very valuable), with the money she bought

a coarse straw hat, black shoes, and coloured gown, for Emily, and the remainder of the sum she laid out in books. Upon her return, she found the children dressing for dinner, and ordering Betty to bring up the seat of the chariot, she said, it contains, Emily, cloathing for you. Emily was eager to see it opened, but when the contents were exposed, her countenance was expressive of anger and disappointment. Surely, mamma, said she, you can never mean a daughter of your's to wear cloathing only fit for a cottager! Indeed but I do, replied Mrs. Pennington; for as your pride was increased by ornaments, I hope the plainness

plainness of your apparel will teach you humility; and if this lesson has not the desired effect, depend upon it, Emily, that the happiness of our family shall not be destroyed by daily witnessing your unamiable conduct; for my determination is fixed, and I am resolved to send you to School far distant from us, where, possibly, when you find yourself deprived of those tender indulgences you have always met with at home, you may learn to prize those blessings you hitherto have set no value upon.

STORY VIII.

AS Mr. Lumley and his son Herbert were seated under the branches of an extending oak, to screen themselves from the scorching rays of a noontide sun, they overheard two boys, on the other side the hedge, conversing very warmly upon a point they differed about—I tell you what, Jack, said one to the other, if you do not take my advice, and carry the purse to the crier, that we may find out who it belongs to, though you
and

and I have been friends these four years, I will never have any thing to say to you again; for you might as well *steal* a purse, as keep one without enquiring who has lost it. Why, replied Jack, I never heard of such a scrupulous fellow; is not what I find my own? and I am sure my father is poor enough; and these three guineas would go a good way towards buying him another cow, to make amends for ours that died the other day; however, you have preached so much about its being a sin and a shame, Bob, that I will even go with you to the criers, and let the money be hanged; for I would not do a *BAD action* any more than you, though I did

did feel tempted to keep it; that is right my honest lad, said Bob, giving him at the same time a hearty clap upon the shoulder, and away they both ran.

What a lesson, my dear Herbert, said Mr. Lumley to his son, might the conversation we have just overheard teach you; yes, papa, said Herbert, Bob is a very good boy, indeed, but Jack, you heard was inclined to keep the purse; true, replied Mr. Lumley, and what a comfort it is for him, that he has chosen for his friend, a boy older than himself, who is able to advise him; and, at the same time, possessing sentiments that
might

might do honour to the most exalted station ; and, I think, this a good opportunity to inforce the necessity there is for your being very particular, as to the character of the boy with whom you enter into habits of intimacy.

I am not apprehensive, my dear fellow, that your own heart, if you followed its dictates, would lead you into error ; but with so easy, and at the same time, so attached a disposition, as yours, if you were unfortunately to form a connection with a boy of an unamiable turn of mind, I should tremble for the consequences, as I fear he might lead you into the
road

road of vice, before you were aware that you were verging to its path.

This conversation was interrupted by the arrival of Mrs. Lumley, and her daughter Charlotte; oh! Herbert, said Charlotte, we have got a holy-day to-day, for my governess has just heard that her sister is married and the young ladies are going to have a very nice entertainment, but I preferred coming home; for though I love them very much, I love you my dear brother a great deal better; and besides, I wanted to tell you something.

You

You must know, that poor Joe Turner, our gardener, is lately dead with the small-pox, and has left a wife and five small children; the poor creature is in the greatest distress imaginable, for they have for a long time been very unfortunate; their children have all been sickly, and Susan herself sprained her wrist so bad, that she was unable to work; so my governess has set a subscription on foot in the school, and we have got five and thirty shillings for her; and upon my saying, I thought my mamma would add something to it, my governess gave me the money, and desired, that if my mamma was so kind as to contribute

bute, that I would call and give it the poor creature, as she has never had the small-pox, and does not like to go to the house. Well, said Herbert, taking out his purse, let me see how much I can give the poor soul; oh, I can very well spare two shillings, continued he; but let us go to mamma, and tell her all about it. Mrs. Lumley applauded the benevolence of her children, and adding five shillings to the sum, gave them leave to carry it to Susan; they instantly flew across the church-yard to the cottage; they found the poor creature in a very reduced situation, extreme poverty was depicted in the appearance of herself

herself, and children, and her countenance was the index of a wounded heart ! She was chopping onions, by way of thickening water gruel for the childrens dinner, when they entered ; Susan, said Charlotte, how do you find yourself ? we are come to bring you a little comfort, oh, Miss, replied the unhappy woman, I doubt not, comfort and I have long been strangers, and I fear we shall never be friends again ; do not think so, said Herbert ; though we have all our troubles in this world ; papa often tells me ; but you know, Susan, they will all end by and by ; yes, replied Charlotte, we shall all be happy, you know, Susan, when we

go to heaven; but there is something to make you comfortable before hand, said she, laying down the two guineas upon the table; my governess raised it by subscription, and my mamma added five shillings to it, and bid me tell you to come to dinner every Sunday. Heaven bless you! my dear young lady, said the poor woman, and reward you for your goodness, to an unfortunate widow, whose prayers will ever attend you! the children left the cottage, with the most delightful sensations of satisfaction, from having been instrumental to the happiness of a fellow creature, and ran eagerly home to impart the account of the situation

situation they found the poor woman in.

My dear children, said Mrs. Lumley, as they entered the room, why have you ran in that violent manner? you look in a perfect fever; indeed Charlotte, said Mr. Lumley, you must not pay your uncle a visit in India, if a day like this puts you into so great a heat. Papa, said Herbert, we will sit down comfortably and cool ourselves, if you will have the goodness to tell us something about Bengal; but pray, papa, first inform me why it is called India? from the river Indus, replied Mr. Lumley. And as to Bengal,

it is so very abundant, that it is stiled the store-house of the East-Indies ; the produce of the soil consists of rice, sugar-cane, corn, sesamum, small mulberry, and other trees, and its muslins, callicos, silks, salt-petre, wax, and civit, are exported to every part of the world : provisions of all sorts are in vast plenty, and very cheap ; the principal English factory is at Calcutta, and is called Fort William ; a most melancholy catastrophe happened there in the year 1756, when one hundred and forty-five British subjects were forced into a confined prison, called the Black Hole of Calcutta, about eighteen feet square,

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and out of that number, only twenty-three came out alive, the rest endured the most agonizing death from suffocation.

About four miles from Bombay (which is an English settlement) is a very curious island, called the island of Elephanta, which derives its name from the figure of an Elephant, hewn out of a massy stone, and so exact a representation of that animal is it that you would take it for a living one ; as you ascend a hill, you arrive at the portal of a cavern formed out of a solid rock, the entrance of which strikes you with the appearance of a magnificent temple, about

ninty feet long by forty broad ; at the end of this temple, are three gigantic figures, of most excellent workmanship, though I could not find that they had any relation to any part of history ; but upon the whole, this place is vastly well worth seeing, and the English often make parties and spend the day there.

I should be afraid, papa, said Herbert, ever to go out upon a party of pleasure, if I lived in the East-Indies, for fear of the tigers ; for do not you remember Mr. Howard telling us a story of a number of his friends who were dining under a tree, and that a tiger was just going to make
a spring

a spring at a lady, who luckily had the presence of mind to unfurl an umbrella at him, the surprise of which, so terrified the animal, that he walked away; yes, replied Mr. Lumley, I recollect the story, but happily people who reside there, do not suffer their minds to be continually dreading an evil that may never happen. Well, papa, continued Herbert, but the heat of the climate would be very disagreeable to me; for I love cold weather better than hot, and I would rather live at Kam^{skatka} than Bengal; there is no accounting for taste, Herbert, said his father, but I think if you knew what boorish beings the poor

inhabitants of that country are, you would not be very fond of associating with them. Pray, papa, said Charlotte, where is Kamchatca, for I never recollect hearing any thing about it. It is, replied Mr. Lumley, situated in the north-east extremity of Asia, and is a country but little known; the natives of it are as wild as the country itself; some of them have no habitation, but wander about with their herds of rein deer, and form temporary dwellings upon the banks of the rivers, living upon fish, sea animals, and such herbs as grow upon the shore; their huts are formed by digging a hole in the earth about

five

five feet deep, the breadth and length proportioned to the number of people who are to inhabit it; in the center is the fire-place, and round the sides are placed benches, on which the family sleep, and the walls are adorned with mats made of grass; they are dirty in their persons to a disgusting degree; their clothes are made of the skins of deer, dogs, and several sea and land animals; their dogs differ very little from our common house dog, and in travelling, they generally yoke four to a sledge; but it is very difficult to travel in these sledges, for unless a man keeps the most exact balance he is every moment subject to

to be overturned, for the roads are very rugged, and the dogs never stop until they come to some house, or are entangled by something on the road. If a storm of the driven snow surprises them, they are obliged to seek the shelter of some wood, or dig a place under the snow, or hide themselves in holes of the earth, covering themselves with skins.

Before the arrival of the Russians in Kamchatca, they used stones and bones instead of metals; of these they made hatchets, spears, arrows, needles, and lances; in order to kindle a fire they use a board of dry wood with a hole in it, and in this they

they turn a stick so rapidly, that it takes fire, and for tinder they substitute dried grass. For want of proper timber and plank they sometimes make their boats of the skins of sea animals, and they conveniently hold two people.

The history of the Kamchatdales was interrupted by the entrance of a servant, who presented Mr. Allen's compliments to Mr. Lumley, and should be happy if himself and family would accompany him that afternoon in a fishing party. The children intreated their father to accept the invitation, and it was immediately determined that the carriage should

should be ordered to convey them to the banks of the river. Herbert was eager in collecting the fishing-tackle, and in less than an hour from the time the message arrived they all entered the coach with the highest expectation of enjoying good sport.

STORY II.

THE next morning, as Mr. Lumley was at breakfast, a message was delivered from Mr. Frampton, requesting half an hour's conversation with him. I will wait upon him immediately, said Mr. Lumley, and finishing his cup of tea, instantly left the room; mamma, said Herbert, what was the reason that we could none of us persuade you to fish yesterday? because, replied Mrs. Lumley, it is an amusement

ment I could not receive satisfaction from, for I can never separate the idea of the pain, the poor little victim suffers, from the pleasure I should derive from the sport; but then, mamma, why did not you tell Mr. Allen so, when he pressed you so earnestly to join in the amusement; why, continued Mrs. Lumley, had I given Mr. Allen my reasons, Herbert, he might either have thought that I carried my humanity to a degree of affectation, or that, I might suppose, that by his enjoying the amusement so thoroughly, he was devoid of that amiable principal, and these unpleasant ideas were both avoided by my silence; then mam-

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ma, replied Herbert, you think fishing a very inhuman employment; no, my dear boy, *inhuman*, is much too strong a term; but I confess that I have so great an aversion to the giving pain, that I always shrink from the very idea of it, and as there are such a variety of diversions, that can never call forth any unpleasant sensations, I would wish you to make choice of those in preference; for any amusement that tends to lessen the feelings of humanity in a young mind, I disapprove, and the same reason actuates me to hope, that I shall never see you fond of coursing, for the pursuing a poor little timid creature, with power so much superior

perior to its own, seems to me, at once barbarous, and cowardly; however, if you have a mind to become a fox-hunter, the same objection does not exist, for they are voracious animals, and their destruction is to be wished for; I do not think mamma, replied Herbert, I shall ever become a fox-hunter, for I cannot help feeling in a fright, when I am on horse-back; that is for want of more practice, continued Mrs. Lumley, joined to your having had a fall; but you must conquer such a ridiculous fear, or you would be laughed at; a cowardly girl, is a silly being, but a cowardly boy is despicable. I am not cowardly,

mamma

mamma, said Herbert eagerly, with his face glowing at the idea of being suspected of such a weakness; and I only wish I had an opportunity of *showing* you my *courage*. Well, said Charlotte, who had hitherto sat silent, I know that I am excessively *terrified* at the sight of a mouse. Terrified at the sight of a mouse! replied her mamma; never, Charlotte, let me again hear you expose yourself by such an expression; those ridiculous alarms are always the effect of folly or affectation, and I hope you will be superior to both; I can't tell you how contemptible an idea all those little childish fears will occasion people to form of your

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understanding; besides, they would become a continual source of uneasiness to yourself, and of trouble to those about you; but all those whims I should certainly treat as a disease, and make you drink valerian tea by way of strengthening your nerves. I think, mamma, said Charlotte, to avoid such a remedy, I should soon try to get the better of the disease; and I assure you, the next mouse I see I will try and stand still, and look at it, instead of running away. Do so, replied, Mrs. Lumley, and in time I shall expect to see you a perfect heroine.

Mr.

Mr. Lumley now rejoined the party, but with a gravity of countenance that evinced he had been receiving some unpleasant information. I am sure, said Mrs. Lumley, addressing him with solicitude, something has happened to give you uneasiness. Yes, replied Mr. Lumley, and I am doubly pained by the idea, as I know it will occasion you much concern; for could you have believed that Herbert was capable of becoming a story-teller, a thief, and a deceiver!—Impossible! exclaimed Mrs. Lumley; my boy's heart is incapable of it! You recollect, continued Mr. Lumley, about a month ago, hearing that

Mr. Lawrence's cherry-ground had been robbed, and that as it joined Mr. Frampton's garden, his boys were suspected; accordingly they were all taxed with it, and were obliged to give an account how they were employed when it happened; for Lawrence was in the garden just before, and just after, the theft, therefore they must have watched him very narrowly, and Herbert assured his master, that he was at the time playing cricket, but it is now discovered that he was one of the party.

I intreat, however, said Mrs. Lawrence, that you will allow him to
endeavour

endeavour to vindicate his conduct as far as he is able.

I should rejoice, if I thought he could say any thing to palliate such an offence, replied Mr. Herbert; but as he has once told an untruth he may, perhaps, impose upon us with some forged tale.

I can bear any thing, papa, said Herbert, but your thinking me capable of *deceiving you* and my *mamma*; and though I own I have been blamable, I hope, when I have told you all, you will not think me so very guilty.

I shall rejoice to alter my *present* opinion, continued Mr. Lumley, therefore, desire that you will give me this account, but mind that you do not in the slightest degree, deviate from truth.

Herbet suppressed his tears, and proceeded; on the afternoon, papa, that Mr. Lawrence's cherry-tree was robbed, I was playing at cricket, when George Gorden sent a boy to say he wanted me; when I came to him he told me, that there was a very fine cherry-tree loaded with fruit, in Mr. Lawrence's garden; and that by standing on our pales, we might get at least a dozen pounds from it,
and

and as he loved me better than any boy in the school, I should go halves with him, if I would stand and catch the fruit, as he threw it over the pales; I told him, I would have no hand in it, for that it would be an absolute theft; he was then very angry, and vowed he would never be my friend again; I was grieved at this, and could not help crying (for I love him dearly) but still I would not join in the plan; till George said, well Herbert, I am resolved upon having the cherries, and as you will not receive them for me, why I must go and get a basket, and very likely when I am attending to that, I may not mind where I set

my foot, and so may tumble down and break my limbs, but you will not mind that; for I am sure you no longer *love me*, or you would not refuse so trifling a request as holding a few cherries for me.

I could not bear, papa, to think of his having his limbs broken, or that he should suppose I did not love him; and so I did catch the cherries, but I never eat one, and as soon as he came down I went to cricket again, and so when Mr. Frampton enquired how I had been spending my time, it was no untruth to say, at cricket.

You

You have Herbert, said Mr. Lumley, taken a perfect load from my mind, by this description; yet I must highly disapprove your conduct, for the moment George Gordon persuaded you to act *contrary* to *right*, that moment you ought to have renounced him for your friend. True friendship, my dear boy, is a passion that elevates the mind; and the boy who possesses that noble sensation, would much sooner commit a fault himself, than be instrumental to his friend's doing it. I little thought yesterday morning, that the conversation we overheard would be so applicable to my son; but reflect how much better a poor cottager

cottager conducted himself than you have done ; for he told Jack, that unless he immediately endeavoured to discover to whom the purse belonged, though he had been his friend for four years, yet he would never speak to him again. However, as I trust the impression of this lesson will not easily be effaced from your mind, I shall drop the subject, only begging, that you will wait upon Mr. Frampton immediately, and repeat the account I have just heard.

No, papa, replied Herbert, I can't obey you so far ; I would submit

mit to the severest punishment rather than do it, would you be able

Not go and explain the circumstance to your master! said Mr. Lumley, in astonishment; and what may be your motive, pray, Sir, for not doing it?

Because I think, papa, he is quite angry enough with George already, and if I was to tell the whole truth, he would be much more so; and though he was very wrong about the cherries, he is in general a very good boy; and I am sure you would despise me, if, to save myself from
punish-

punishment, I could expose the faults of my friend.

... You are very right, my dear fellow, said Mr. Lumley, though the thought did not strike me when I proposed your explaining the motive of your conduct to your master; but still I must enforce the necessity there is for your discontinuing a habit of intimacy with George Gordon, for depend upon it, that boy wants principle; you may be upon terms of civility with him as a school-fellow, but never, my dear boy, consider him as your friend; but we will drop the subject, and I must tell you, my dear, said Mr. Lumley, addressing

addressing his lady, that I have just received a letter from Mr. Herbert, our boy's god-father, intreating us to spend the remaining part of the summer at Mucrufs-House. Oh, papa, said Charlotte, what delight that would be, for I have heard you say, 'tis a beautiful place; it is certainly, replied her father, one of the sweetest spots in nature, and as you have a taste for drawing, Charlotte, you might there indulge it with advantages that you could receive in no other part of Ireland: you have a most charming view of the Lake of Killarney, and the Mountain of Mangerton, and the grandeur and magnificence of the scene,

scene, is more striking than I can describe. In one part, you will see the gay verdure, blended with scarlet fruit, and snowy blossoms, which are the well known properties of the arbutus; and in other places, you would behold the most elegant variety of brown and yellow tints from other kinds of trees and shrubs, and all these are intermixed with rock work; in short, the whole forms a scene to captivate the mind; you would likewise see the iron-works and copper-mines, both of which are at a very small distance from the seat of my friend. And will you Papa, said Herbert, accept my god-father's invitation? If your mother
has

has no objection, replied Mr. Lumley, to the proposal, I assure you I have none, but if we visit that country, I should wish to see as large a part of it as my time will allow; therefore, we cannot begin our journey with eagerness. I have many things that require my attention at home before I could leave it for a long period. Well, but surely papa, you can compleat every thing in a week, said Charlotte, for I am so delighted at the thoughts of going that I don't believe I shall sleep a wink until the time arrives. At the expiration of the time Charlotte named, Mr. Lumley had settled all his domestic concerns, and the family

mily all reached Holyhead, in high health and spirits, where we shall leave them to embark for Ireland.

STORY X.

ONE winter's evening, when my four little friends and myself had formed a comfortable circle round the fire ; do, said the children, have the goodness to tell us a story this evening ; indeed, I replied, I believe you have exhausted my whole stock, I positively cannot recollect one ; oh, replied the eldest, you promised to inform me how you became acquainted with Mrs. Pemberton, whom you have so great

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a regard for, as you said it was a singular circumstance ; you are to know then, I continued, that one summer I hired a little cottage in the neighbourhood of Windsor, and one morning as I rambled along the banks of the Thames, I observed a lady sitting with two lovely children ; there was a sweetness in the tone of her voice as she addressed them, that quite captivated me ; and I walked on, wondering who the interesting group were ; and meeting my friend, Mrs. Onslow, I described them with the idea that she could give me the information I was anxious to obtain ; it is, she replied, Mrs. Pemberton, for I have just passed her ; and who

is Mrs. Pemberton? I continued, for I am not apt to be caught by outward appearance, but I never felt so strong a desire to form an acquaintance with a stranger; she is, continued Mrs. Onslow, the wife of an officer whose regiment is quartered at Windsor, but I do not think you have much probability of forming an intimacy with her, for she is of a very domestic turn, and devotes the chief of her time to the education of her children; and also seems rather averse to forming new acquaintances, which I lament, for her manners are so very pleasing, that every body wishes to know more of her.

When I got home I was puzzling to think of some scheme to get introduced to this lady, when a melancholy event brought about the wished for circumstance, for my servant entered and told me a most shocking circumstance had happened to a poor woman near us—John Miles, madam, said she, the poor man who lives just by, where 'squire Barnet is building his new house, went about half an hour ago, to the pond, to water one of the 'squire's horses ; when not knowing there was a hole in the middle of it, ventured to the spot, the animal making a false step, threw his rider into the hole; the dreadful shriek, the

poor

poor fellow gave, the moment he saw his danger, reached the ears of his wife, and flying to the spot, she just saw the head of her husband rising above the water; poor soul! she snatched up a long pole, and running with it into the pond, threw one end to the spot where he was, and kept the other in her hand, but oh, madam! think what the poor creature must have felt, when she saw him just in the act of grasping at the pole, sink, and rise no more! the artless manner in which my servant told the story, and the affecting circumstance instantly drew forth tears of compassion; but, reflecting a moment, that by hastening to the

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spot,

spot, I might, perhaps, afford some relief to the sufferer; I told Nanny to conduct me instantly to the cottage she had described.

The poor man had been taken out of the water about ten minutes and was apparently lifeless; the wife was hanging over the body in speechless agony! whilst a lovely little boy, of two years old, was pulling the flap of his father's coat; and saying naughty daddy, not to open his eyes, and look at poor mammy! this distressing scene, for a short space of time, so wholly ingrossed my attention, that I had not observed Mrs. Pemberton, who I now saw busily

busily employed in spreading warm ashes upon a bed in one corner of the room; I instantly joined in the office, and sending the neighbours who were now flocking into the room, to fetch ashes from their respective fires, we instantly undressed the poor soul, and covering the body with the ashes, and making a free circulation of air, by preventing the people from crowding round the bed, in less than a quarter of an hour we had the delightful satisfaction of perceiving the breast heave with a sort of convulsive motion; and, before six o'clock in the evening, the happy wife had the felicity of seeing her husband restored to her

affectionate arms; to describe the joy and gratitude of this worthy woman would require an abler pen than mine; it was every thing that can be conceived by hearts, as sensible of kindness as her own, and we left this worthy pair with a sensation of delight never to be forgotten.

As we were returning home, I could not resist the inclination I felt to improve the opportunity chance had given me of forming a farther acquaintance with Mrs. Pemberton, I therefore told her, that circumstances like those we had just witnessed, brought on an acquaintance between people of a very different nature,

nature, to those produced by accidental meetings, in crowded circles ; and that if she would abolish ceremony, and take her tea with me that afternoon, it would afford me a lively sensation of pleasure, she assured me, that she was that moment going, to make me the same request ; and that she trusted I would comply with it, when she told me that some family occurrences had obliged Mr. Pemberton to be absent from his regiment for some time, and that she had left her children to the care of servants, which was an unusual thing with her, as they were constantly either with their father, or herself ; I accordingly agreed to the proposal,

propofal, and from that day entered into a habit of ftrict intimacy with Mrs. Pemberton, which, I trust, will terminate but with my exiftence.

Upon our entering the houfe, the children flew to embrace their mother, whilft ſhe received and returned their careſſes with the moſt maternal tenderneſs. Eliza and Caroline, eagerly enquired where ſhe had been ? and upon her deſcribing the ſcene ſhe had witneſſed, their eyes overflowed with ſenſibility ; when taking Eliza by the hand, my dear girl, ſaid ſhe, I am much pleaſed with this tenderneſs of your diſpoſition, but always let your feelings lead you

you to endeavour to remove, or lessen, the affliction of your fellow creatures ; for your sympathy, unless guided by that motive, would render you a useless member of that society, you might, by an active degree of benevolence, become an ornament to ; for, said she, suppose upon my hearing the accident that had befallen John Miles, I had sat down and wept over the sufferings of his wife ; how different would my sensations have been to what they are at this moment ; but the instant I was acquainted with the circumstance, I recollected having read an account of ashes having been used with great utility in similar cases ; and you know

know how happily I have succeeded ;
and had I not, I should have had the
satisfaction of knowing that I had
made the attempt, to be useful !

But my dear Caroline, said Mrs.
Pemberton, looking at the child,
who was putting a small box into
her pocket, what can you have got
there ? which, if I may judge by
your countenance you did not wish
me to observe : a little degree of
embarrassment was visible in both
the children ; come, said her mother,
shew it me my love, surely you are
not going to prove to me Caroline,
that you no longer consider me as
your friend ! and *confidence* is the *foun-
dation*

dation of friendship!—oh, mamma, said Caroline, I cannot bear that you should talk to me so! but some how, I do not like to shew you this box, because, mamma, though we did not mean to do wrong, something tells me, we have not done right, and I fear also, giving you pain. This prelude to the delivering up the box, called forth a thousand apprehensions in the breast of Mrs. Pemberton, and desiring Caroline, not to keep her any longer in suspense, the child opened it, and emptying its contents on the table, discovered several snails with their heads cut off. Surely, said Mrs. Pemberton, turning from the poor reptiles, such a barbarous employment

ployment as this, can never have been the amusement of children, whose hearts I believed susceptible of every humane impression !

Explain to me Eliza, the motive that could actuate such an unheard of piece of cruelty ? Eliza now approached her mother, and with the utmost timidity of countenance attempted to take the hand of Mrs. Pemberton, which she instantly withdrew, desiring to be made acquainted with the cause of the painful scene she had before her.

The children were so thoroughly distressed by the displeasure visible
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in their mother's countenance and manner, that they instantly fell on their knees before her, and besought her to look at them as she used to do. We will bear any punishment, mamma, said they, you think we deserve, without repining, if you will but let us think we have not lost your affection! Indeed, my dear, dear mamma, said Caroline, we shall certainly die if you continue to look at us with such aversion.

No, Caroline, said Mrs. Pemberton, you would not die; but as I believe you are very sorry for having displeased me, I wish you immediately to endeavour to exculpate yourselves

yourselves as far as you are able; I therefore again desire an explanation.

Why, mamma, the other afternoon, when Miss Melford was here, we amused her by repeating some of the histories of living animals, that you have so often told us; and we informed her, that when our papa was in America, he was pursued by a black snake, and that after running at least two miles he was at last overtaken by it; that the creature twisted itself round his body, but that having one arm at liberty, he had taken a knife out of his pocket and cut off its head, though
not

not until it had given him a severe bite, but that it very soon healed again. Oh ! said Miss Melford, cutting off the creatures head, would do it no injury, another would very soon grow ; another head grow ! said I, in astonishment ; yes, replied Miss Melford, I know it is either snakes, or snails, whose heads grow after they are cut off, but now I think of it, I believe it is the latter ; and I am determined to try the experiment ; it will be a very cruel one, I replied ; not at all, said Miss Melford, for the head is connected to the body by a membrane as free from sensibility as our nails, and this I was told by a gentleman

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who

who I can depend upon. Hearing this mamma, we went into the garden, as soon as you went out this afternoon, and collected the poor creatures whose appearances shocked you so much; and, though we believed what Miss Melford told us, yet we felt a very painful sensation, when we separated the head of the first, and put our ear close to it, to hear if it made any noise, or expressive of pain; but finding it did not, we believed we might pursue the employment, and were just come in, when you arrived.

I am delighted, my dear children, said Mrs. Pemberton, taking a hand
of

of each, to find you have not been so very blameable as I at first apprehended; but rest assured, that the poor snails have suffered the severest torture, and that the whole of the circumstances are untrue; in the first instance, the story of the head growing again, is a fabulous idea, as has been proved by the experience of those who have repeatedly made the trial, though hundreds of these poor reptiles lives have fallen a sacrifice to it. But a gentleman who was determined to discover whence the idea arose, observed, that by cutting off the heads of these poor creatures with a blunt instrument, which was drawn rather slowly along, the

sufferer had time to contract, or withdraw their heads; so that only the skin with a small part of the head was cut off. However, thus much has been proved, that snails will live a considerable time, after their heads are separated from their bodies.

But, my dear children, I am persuaded that when you have heard this story, you thought the experiment would not meet with my approbation, or you would have acquainted me with it; but, however, we will drop a subject that has occasioned us all so much uneasiness; you, from having suffered my displeasure,

pleasure, and me, from thinking that my beloved girls were capable of an act of cruelty. And as you are fond of experiments, I understand there is a boy at Windsor, at this time, who has the wonderful faculty of discovering water under ground; therefore, to-morrow morning, we will contrive some excuse to bring him into the garden to satisfy ourselves of the truth of the report,

The next morning, Mrs. Pember-ton, desired the gardener to dig a large hole two feet deep, into which he was to put a large earthen pan filled with water, and covered over with another; the grass was then

laid down again over the part, and the boy, as by chance, was invited to walk in the garden, Mrs. Pember-ton, for some time, led him from the spot, but returning by another way, passed over the ground where the water was sunk. The boy was walking carelessly with his hands in his pockets, when coming to the spot, he stamped his foot and said, "Here is water, but it does not run." My astonishment was not to be expressed, which was heightened by observing, he was in other respects very illiterate. He was a Portuguese, and his father possessed the same wonderful faculty.

At this moment a servant entered with the tea equipage, and a small table and tea things upon it, was brought in for the children; Caroline, who was rather inclined to be in a bustle, ran up to it, and in so doing, overturned the jug of milk. Indeed Caroline, said Mrs. Pemberton, I believe I must send you to Japan, to be taught to make tea gracefully; to Japan, mamma, said Caroline! Yes, said Mrs. Pemberton, the children are there taught it as an accomplishment, in the same manner as Europeans are dancing, &c. Pray mamma, said Eliza, does the tea grow on a tree, or a shrub? and where does it flourish most? It is
a shrub,

a shrub, replied Mrs. Pemberton, which in about seven years, grows to the height of a man, it is then cut down, which occasions an exuberance of fresh leaves and shoots; it is chiefly cultivated in China and Japan, it delights particularly in valleys, on the declivities of hills, or upon the banks of rivers where it enjoys a southern aspect. There is great care required in gathering the leaves, which are all pulled one by one, from the stalk; public buildings are erected for the purpose of drying them, and these buildings contain from ten to twenty small furnaces, about three feet high, each having at the top, a large flat iron pan,

pan, bent up a little on that side which is over the mouth of the furnace, which prevents the leaves falling off. There is also a long low table, covered with mats, on which the leaves are laid, and rolled by workmen, who sit round it. This process is repeated two or three times, that the moisture of the leaves may be thoroughly dissipated, and they curl more thoroughly preserved.

Pray mamma, said Eliza, is Japan near those famous cities that were destroyed by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius? My dear soul, said Mrs. Pemberton, you make me blush by exposing your ignorance of Geography :

phy : Japan, is a large empire in the most eastern part of Asia, consisting of several islands ; the principal of which is Japan, and gives the name to the rest. And Herculaneum and Pompeii are not far distant from Naples, a kingdom in the south of Italy. And what had you told my sister about Herculaneum ? said Caroline, for I never heard a word of it. That is your own fault, replied Mrs. Pemberton, for you certainly were in the room ; but you were so attentive to the account of the luminous insects made use of by the Indians, before the discovery of candles, that you did not regard what I was saying. I told your sister, my dear Caroline, that

that when I was at Italy, I visited those two wonderful monuments of the destructive power of that liquid fire, called Lava; under the torrent of which was buried these once flourishing cities. The modern discovery of which, was made by the sinking of a well in the year 1706. I was present at the digging up of several human skeletons that were adorned with gold-rings, ear-rings, and bracelets. The buildings are all in wonderful preservation, and the theatre is in a beautiful stile of architecture.

Near the theatre is a temple, supposed to be dedicated to Hercules, the walls of which are covered with paintings, done in a superior stile of excellence.

excellence. How fortunate it is for us mamma, said Ediza, that we do not live in a country subject to such dreadful accidents. Yes, my dear girl, replied Mrs. Pemberton, it is so, for we doubtless enjoy more real blessings and fewer inconveniences in this happy island, than in any other part of the globe. At this moment, my servant arrived, to say that I was particularly wanted at home, I therefore reluctantly took my leave of this amiable family, but my dear children, as I have informed you how I became acquainted with Mrs. Pemberton, I may possibly for the amusement of some future evening, give you a farther account of her children.



The Reader is requested candidly to excuse and correct the following errors of the Press, owing to the absence of the Author when printed.

Page.	Line.	
vii,	15,	<i>for</i> Setelians <i>read</i> Sicilians
8,	1,	— is <i>r.</i> has—plum <i>r.</i> plumb
9,	17,	— a <i>r.</i> an
12,	16,	— a be <i>r.</i> be a
	8,	— Rain-deer <i>r.</i> Rein-deer
13,	7,	— new <i>r.</i> knew
15,	9,	— who <i>r.</i> whom
21,	5,	— was <i>r.</i> were
22,	16,	— were <i>r.</i> wear
26,	7,	— movable <i>r.</i> moveable
27,	18,	— a Russian Peasant <i>r.</i> the Russian Peasants
37,	9,	— frendship <i>r.</i> friendship
40,	2,	— who <i>r.</i> whom
47,	16,	— enter <i>r.</i> entered
48,	11,	— a buket <i>r.</i> bucket
54,	14,	— vegatables <i>r.</i> vegetables
77,	9,	— too <i>r.</i> to
78,	3,	— does <i>r.</i> do
79,	15,	— pray <i>r.</i> prey
80,	8,	— Pynences <i>r.</i> Pyrenees
82,	6,	— according <i>r.</i> accordingly
84,	10,	— exclaimed <i>r.</i> exclaimed
109,	6,	— were <i>r.</i> where
116,	13,	— Sicelians <i>r.</i> Sicilians
117,	13,	— caprifoned <i>r.</i> caparifoned
119,	9,	— I brought <i>r.</i> I have brought
147,	13,	— given <i>r.</i> given her
149,	11,	— begant <i>r.</i> began,
153,	11,	— indulgencies <i>r.</i> indulgences
163,	9,	— put <i>r.</i> puts
165,	14,	— cavarn <i>r.</i> cavern
167,	168, 170,	— Kamchatka <i>r.</i> Kamiskatka
181,	13,	— blamable <i>r.</i> blameable
188,	11,	— principal <i>r.</i> principle
193,	12,	— who <i>r.</i> whom
201,	3,	— cerimony <i>r.</i> ceremony
202,	4,	— existance <i>r.</i> existence
217,	11,	— they <i>r.</i> the

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